

**HISTORY OF
NEW HOPE
METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH**

By
REV. EARL A. COOK

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HISTORY OF NEW HOPE Methodist Protestant Church

UNION COUNTY, BUFORD TOWNSHIP
MONROE, NORTH CAROLINA
FROM THE YEAR 1889 TO 1936

By
REV. EARL A. COOK



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The Author
REV. EARL A. COOK,

THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED
TO AND IN MEMORY OF
MY DEAR MOTHER
MRS. MARY E. NORMAN COOK
Who Gave Herself and Children in Service
to This Church.

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This Book contains seventy-six pages that are not numbered, those that contain half-tone pictures.

PREFACE



It has been my desire for many years to see the History of my Home Church written. The desire has been so great that I have determined to prepare this book myself. In trying to prepare this little book, I find that many of us have forgotten well-nigh all the works of our former pastors. It seems as though their works have died with them. It is my purpose to bring these memories again to the surface in this little volume, that our children may know of the great works, toils and struggles of these faithful old pastors, many of whom have passed on.

This book would be incomplete without acknowledging the works of the faithful members who have passed on to their rewards. It appears that we have forgotten the works of these great men who made New Hope Church what it is today. I, myself, can remember but few of them; but much do I treasure the memory of those who labored in the interest of my Church and Community. It is my desire in preparing this book to make these great men live again in our memories. I have secured the photographs of them, with great expense, for the purpose of making these memories more realistic.

We could not forget these faithful ones who are still laboring with us today; we are proud of them; they have meant much to the church and much to me personally. I am proud to say that what is written of them in the pages of this little book, is said with pleasure.

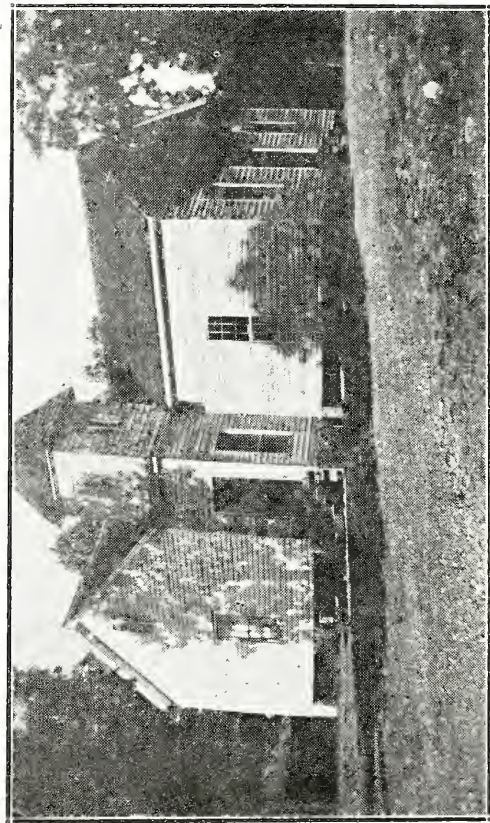
Another object in writing this book is to refresh our memories on things in general. Many times have

we asked each other of things which happened at certain times, that is difficult for us to recall the correct date of the happenings. In most churches, of long years standing, where records have not been kept, pastors are forgotten; oftentimes, their names. Too, the year, or years, they served the church, together with the dates, is oftentimes missing. In many instances the correct date of the organization of the church cannot be given. It was almost impossible to find the correct date of the organization of New Hope Church. By writing more than four hundred letters, to the people and officials of the North Carolina Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, I have secured the correct information and dates which appear in this volume, unless otherwise stated.

If, through the pages that follow, I can revive the memories, which have faded with the years, of our faithful pastors and Christian brethren, who have passed on, and arouse within the reader a knowledge of his neglected duty to the church; and create within him a desire for service to the institution which has sheltered his religious life, I shall indeed be thankful.

REV. EARL A. COOK.

PRINTER'S NOTE: This book was printed personally by the author and covers a period of five years' work. Many errors may be found, both typographically and in the phraseology, especailly in the first 37 pages, which was printed in the first two years. The first printing experience of the author is in this book.



NEW HOPE METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH
Erected 1892

ORGANIZATION

New Hope Methodist Protestant Church was organized by Rev. Frank A. Sides, in the year 1889, after Shiloh Methodist Episcopal Church burned in the summer or fall of 1888.

Rev. Tom Elington was pastor of Shiloh Church, an office he had filled for a number of years. There arose a dispute among the members of the church which resulted in the refusal of the Pastor to continue serving the church. For several months the church was without the services of a spiritual leader, but, as in all good churches, there were several good members who were not satisfied to see the church fall into inactivity and disrepute. Several of the official members went to the Methodist Protestant preacher, Rev. F. A. Sides, who was then serving the Monroe Circuit, and requested his services for their church when he had time to spare. He consented to do so.

After several services had been held by the new preacher, there arose objections to a Methodist Protestant preacher serving a Methodist Episcopal Church. These objections were raised chiefly by Mr. Darling Belk. The objection amounted to very little at first, but later they grew into harsh and bitter resentment and finally into threats. One night, during the late summer or fall of 1888, before the members who lived nearest the church could reach their homes, a fire started in the church. In a few minutes Shiloh Church

was a mass of flames, which completely demolished the building in a short while.

Recalling the threats that had been made, after a movement had been started to turn the church into a Methodist Protestant Church, many were of the opinion that the church had been purposely fired by someone who objected to the change of the denomination of their local church.

After the fire the Methodist Episcopal Conference made no claim upon the church and offered no suggestion that the church be rebuilt. The people were in a quandary as to a line of action to employ. Finally, the people who had accepted Rev. Mr. Sides as their pastor, went to him for assistance and suggestions, which he readily gave.

Arrangements were made for the immediate construction of a brush arbor in which to worship, which was erected just above where New Hope schoolhouse now stands and only a few hundred yards South of the spot where the present church now stands. This arbor was used the remainder of the year 1888 and through the summer of 1889.

Rev. Mr. Sides continued his service to the church and in 1889 it was definitely decided to organize the church into a Methodist Protestant Church. Church officers were elected as follows: J. R. Belk, J. Pat Belk and Cull M. Richardson, Trustees; J. R. Belk was elected chairman. Aaron Cook, W. C. Belk and A. W. Belk, stewards; Cull M. Richardson was elected Class Leader, an office which he was well able to fill. It is impossible to furnish the names of the other officers who were elected or appointed at that time.

At the Third Quarterly Conference of the Monroe Circuit, New Hope Church was recognized as an organized body—this was during 1889. In August of the same year, Rev. Sides conducted a very successful revival under the arbor and many united with the new church, among whom were Mr. A. W. Belk and wife, Mr. W. C. Belk and wife, Mr. Aaron Cook and wife, Mr. Cull M. Richardson, John R. Belk and wife, Mr. J. Pat Belk, Mr. Fisher Helms and wife, and others, most of whom belonged to old Shiloh Church.

During the latter part of October, 1889, the Fourth Quarterly Conference was held, which was well attended by the officials of New Hope Church. After the transaction of the regular business a motion was made, which was duly seconded and carried, that the Conference request the Annual Conference to have the Boundary Committee place New Hope Church on the Monroe Circuit. The salary of the pastor was fixed at an unknown amount, of which New Hope Church agreed to pay fifteen dollars.

1890—Rev. Sides reported the organization of the new church to the Annual Conference, which convened in Mt. Zion Church, Stokes County, on November 26th, 1889. In the Conference Journal of 1889, the new church is reported as having been organized by Rev. F. A. Sides. During that session of Conference, the request of the Monroe Circuit was granted by the Boundary Committee and New Hope Church was placed on the Monroe Circuit. Rev. Sides was reappointed to serve the Circuit for the year 1890. During this entire period of the organization of this

church, it was known as New Shiloh and the New Church, the name New Hope having been adopted several years later.

Early in the spring of 1890, a new brush arbor was built to replace the old one, which had become delapidated. This arbor was built on the plot of land where the church now stands. During the month of August, Rev. D. A. Braswell assisted the pastor in a great revival under the new arbor, which accomplished much good. Rev. Braswell expressed his devotion to the new church and soon won the love and admiration of the people by his earnest preaching and prayers.

In the Fourth Quarterly Conference of the Monroe Circuit, New Hope Church requested that Rev. Sides return to them as their pastor for the next year. On being put before that body the motion unanimously carried. At the Annual Conference, held December 11th, 1890, at Winston, N. C., Mr. Sides was re-assigned by the President, Rev. W. A. Bunch, to serve the Monroe Circuit during 1891.

1891—As was true during 1890, little was done during the winter months, due to the lack of a proper place in which to meet during the cold season. In the spring, however, the arbor was repaired and services begun. During the summer an agitation for a church building was begun, but which failed to be realized, due to the lack of a sufficient number of members. During the revival that year, however, several new membres were admitted into the fold.

Prior to the meeting of the Fourth Quarterly Conference the pastor expressed his desire to change his work for another field. This was sadly heard by the members of the new church and when he went before the Conference with the same request, which was granted, New Hope Church lost a faithful and warmly loved friend. He was unanimously requested to return to the Charge, but again he expressed his desire to move. Before leaving he expressed his devotion to the new church and to its members and urged them to construct a building as they had promised. The members promised that next year would see a new building for the church and, with sad hearts, the Conference closed. Thus, the founder of New Hope Church passed from among the members of the Charge and his departure carried many fond hopes and remembrances with it.

1892—At the Annual Conference, at which Mr. Sides was released from this Charge, Rev. W. C. Lewis was appointed as the pastor of the Monroe Charge. For some unknown reason Mr. Lewis never came to this work. In referring to the records of the Annual Conference, we find that no pastor was ever appointed to fill this vacancy. Therefore, New Hope was without a pastor until the next spring or summer, when the Rev. D. A. Braswell came to the rescue of the struggling church.

Mr. Braswell was a young local preacher, just entering the Conference, and was doing supply work

for several other churches at the same time. In the spring of this year, the people remembered their promise to Rev. Mr. Sides, and began preparing to build.

The New Building.—The land on which the brush arbor was located, belonged to Mr. Hosa Hale. He had promised the pastor and the Trustees to deed this plot of land to the Trustees for a church when they were ready to build. This deed was made to the Trustees and their successors, and was signed by John R. Belk, Cull M. Richardson and J. Pat Belk. The deed was made April 26th, 1892. Mr. Hale, who was a local Methodist Episcopal preacher, passed to his reward before the land was deeded for the church, although his wife, Mrs. Sarah Hale, carried out the promise of her husband. The deed only bears the name of "Sarah Hale," Trustees and witnesses. A price of One Dollar was paid by the Trustees, to Mrs. Hale, for the land.

Mr. Marsh Rogers and Mr. A. W. Belk gave a large part of the timber for the frame work of the building. Mr. Rogers had not united with this church but was one of the leading workmen. All the members of the church took great interest in this work, and almost every one gave material for the building. The work moved slowly during the entire Summer, although it was not finished for several years thereafter. During the Fall and Winter of 1892 and '93, the church was without a floor, with the exception of in the pulpit and the altar. Rev. Mr. Braswell did not have the time to look after the building of the church,

neither was able to serve the church full time.

In August of that year, a problem came to the people with great sorrow. Mrs. Martha Cook, wife of Aaron Cook, passed from this life. The work on the church was stopped and the members tried to locate a burying ground near the church. Several attempts were made to dig a grave near the church, without success. Sebern Belk gave the church a right to bury on the top of a nearby hill, where the burying ground is now located. Rev. Mr. Braswell was notified, and he conducted the funeral. That was a sad time with the people of the community. The church mourned the loss of its first charter member.

No Quarterly Conference reports are available of that year. Very little is remembered of the revival, which Rev. Mr. Braswell himself conducted.

1893-1894.—After the Annual Conference the new pastor came for the following year, 1893, Rev. J. S. Dunn, a somewhat aged man, with very peculiar ways, although a good man and a very able and experienced preacher. Some time after Conference, he moved his family to a little station known as New London, N. C. His only way to get to the different churches of the circuit was to walk, which he did without complaint. On his first appointment at the new church he became greatly interested in the work there. The building lacked much of being finished. The people, at that time, put all they had into the little church building, and were now trying to gather funds to complete it.

After Rev. Mr. Dunn filled a few appointments, he delivered a very impressive message on the subject "Hope," and emphasized the fact that the people of that place had entered upon a "new hope." From that sermon the new church received its name "New Hope." It was indeed a new hope to the little band of believers who had lost their hope by the burning of Shiloh Church.

The pastor praised the people for their faithfulness to their beloved little church, and their practice of the old time Religion, in the old time Methodist way. Many times while enjoying a good service, he would sing alone, his favorite song, of which the following is a part:

"Wife, I've found the Model Church;
I've worshipped there to-day;
Bring forth the Royal Diadem,
And Crown Him Lord of all."

The Church, apparently, had a successful year. A very successful revival is reported by Rev. Aner B. Haywood, who assisted the pastor. The revival began the second Sunday in August, and continued about ten days. Rev. Mr. Haywood reported a large number of conversions and several new members were added to the church.

The Fourth Quarterly Conference of that year, was held at Grace Chapel Church. The delegate was instructed to ask for the return of Mr. Dunn for the next Conference year, 1894. The request was granted by the Annual Conference, and he was re-assigned. Things, apparently, moved on as usual

until mid-summer, when the pastor, undoubtedly became dissatisfied. The reason I am unable to give, probably he was being neglected by the people, or perhaps he became offended at some official or officials. However, he continued serving the church until the revival, which was held some time in August. The Rev. D. A. Braswell assisted in the revival. The people of New Hope Church were greatly indebted to Rev. Braswell for his splendid and untiring service prior to that time.

One morning during the revival, which had been in progress several days, the pastor and Rev. Braswell had spent the night in the home of W. C. Belk. While preparing to go to church for the morning service Rev. Dunn insisted that he start early and walk, since he was more accustomed to walking, the others to follow later by buggy. When they reached the church Rev. Dunn had not yet arrived, neither did he come at all. Rev. Braswell continued the revival work, which was a success.

It is not known that Rev. Dunn deserted the whole circuit, although he never came back to New Hope Church again. It is believed that he continued serving the other churches of the Circuit until the close of the Conference year, which ended the first of November.

With all the churches of the Circuit, it was hard to support a pastor. Whoever came to the work was forced to depend on something else to supplement his salary. Knowing that Rev. Dunn would not come back the next year, the delegate was left uninstructed.

REV. G. H. AUSTIN—1895-1896

At the beginning of the new Conference year, 1895, the people waited with anxious hearts, for the new pastor. These were days when news traveled slow, and to know, was to wait on the preacher himself. A late report came that Rev. A. L. Hunter had been assigned to the Monroe Circuit. The people waited for a reasonable time, but the new pastor did not come. Later, each church received notice from the President of the Conference that Rev. Hunter would not come, but a pastor would immediately be assigned to the work. Some time in January, 1895, Rev. G. Harper Austin was assigned to the work. He assumed his pastoral duties soon afterwards. Rev. Austin was a middle-aged man of fine qualities. He was an uneducated man, but was advanced in the Bible. He at once became attached to the people of New Hope Church, and took great interest in the work being done there.

In the spring of 1895, the people endeavored to finish the inside work of the church building, which was so badly needed. After a canvass for funds and material, they only received enough to complete the floor in the building. That was done, and temporary seats were made, which put the church in a better condition in which to worship.

A ten-day vocal singing school was taught by Professor J. C. Harris, in the early part of August, just before the beginning of the revival, 1895. Great interest was taken in the school, and a large number attended, not only the members of the Church and community, but many from adjoining communities. The singing school added many to the attenders at the church.

The results of the revival that year are not remembered, although it was conducted by the pastor during August.

At the close of the Conference year the people of the entire circuit expressed their love and appreciation to Rev. Austin for his effective work by instructing the delegate to the Annual Conference, to ask for his return.

1896—Rev. Austin was reassigned and was soon back in his regular appointments and pastoral work. The winter passed with very little accomplished, but at the approaching spring Rev. Austin insisted that a Sunday School be organized. This was undertaken, which was a difficult task, although one was organized. The pastor was away in his other five or six churches, save the one appointment each month. This was the first Sunday School of the church, and did not survive, save through the summer months, which was true with most rural churches of that time.

Again, the results of the revival are not recorded, neither can the name of the preacher who assisted the pastor be given, if there was one.

The Fourth Quarterly Conference was held in October. The conference had quite a problem at that time. A motion was put before the body to know if they would unite with the Wadesboro Circuit. The Monroe Circuit had five churches, they all were weak, three of which were new churches. After much discussion, it was decided that the two Circuits would unite. The Wadesboro Circuit had become too weak to support a pastor also. The pastor had suggested a union of the two Circuits, as did the President of the Annual Conference. The Boundary Committee acted upon the decision of the two Circuits, and they were united, being known as the Wadesboro Circuit. That action eliminated the Monroe Circuit, therefore, Rev. Austin was assigned to the Mocksville Circuit.

REV. ROBERT L. DAVIS, 1897

REV. J. N. GARRETT, 1898

After the two circuits were united, it made a very large and scattered Circuit, and was a very undesirable work for most any preacher.

The pastor came immediately to the work, and, it is believed he moved near Peachland, North Carolina. Rev. Mr. Davis was a very able preacher. He was well educated, having come to the Methodist Protestant Church from the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. While in that Conference he had served several large City churches, and this type of work was all he had labored with. Therefore, this made a vast difference in his work on the Wadesboro Circuit, a circuit of about nine churches. No particular interest was taken in the Church that year. Things moved on as usual with the regular routine of work.

At the Fourth Quarterly Conference Rev. Mr. Davis asked that he not be considered by the Conference as pastor for the next year. On questioning, it was learned that he was expecting a Station work in the Conference. Therefore, the delegate was left uninstructed.

Rev. Mr. Davis was generally liked by all the people of New Hope Church. He leaves one namesake in the community, Robert Davis Belk, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. John R. Belk.

1898—The Annual Conference sent a new pastor, Rev. J. N. Garrett, to the work. Rev. Mr. Garrett was a man advanced in years, a very able preacher, and a very effective pastor. He at once took great interest in New Hope Church, and the people soon fell in line with him. Much progress was made in the Church, and some finishing work was done on the building. A very successful revival was conducted in the latter part of August. Rev. A. B. Haywood assisted the pastor in the work. The Fourth Quarterly Conference was held at New Hope Church, and the pastor reported the work in good condition. Little more than one-half of the salary had been paid. The whole Circuit had promised \$200, but they paid only \$113.56. A reasonable amount had been paid on the Conference budget. The Conference cast a unanimous vote for the return of Pastor Garrett. The delegate, Mr. W. T. Tucker, was instructed to ask for his return. It was his intention to return to the Wadesboro Circuit, but his vision became so dim the Conference thought it best that he return to his home circuit at Yadkin College, North Carolina. Since the Annual Conference ruled as it did regarding Rev. Mr. Garrett, the Wadesboro Circuit was left unsupplied for the next year, 1899.

REV. J. L. GILES, 1899, 1900, 1901, AND 1902

As the Circuit was left unsupplied at the Conference of 1899, the Church waited for some time for a pastor. Two months passed and nothing was heard from a pastor. Some official of New Hope Church wrote the President of the Annual Conference, at Greensboro, North Carolina, after which a pastor was appointed, Rev. J. L. Giles, who came to the work early in February 1899.

Rev. Mr. Giles was a middle-aged man, and an experienced minister. He was a sweet spirited man, and at once showed great interest in New Hope Church, and they soon forgot their great loss in losing Mr. Garrett, for Mr. Giles proved to be as able a preacher and pastor as the former one. A prayer meeting was soon started, and the Sunday School revived, under the leadership of Mr. Cull Richardson. Mr. Richardson was a splendid Sunday School worker, and always had the work at heart. A revival was conducted by the pastor early in September. There was no pulpit help secured with the exception of a few services conducted by the Rev. A. B. Haywood, a local preacher on the work. A good revival was reported in the pastor's report of that year.

The people in general were well pleased with Rev. Mr. Giles, and at the Fourth Quarterly Conference the delegate was instructed to ask for his return.

1900—The Conference granted the request of the delegate and Rev. Mr. Giles began his second year's work on the Wadesboro Circuit. The work advanced, and the Sunday School thrived through the winter. With the coming of spring John R. Belk led the church in organizing a prayer meeting, as the one before had died during the winter months.

A revival was conducted early in August with Rev. Wm. P. Martin as pulpit help. Rev. Mr. Martin was a successful evangelist, and a great revival was witnessed. Quite a number of new members were added to the church roll.

The year closed with New Hope going over the top financially. They promised \$25.00 and paid \$25.25. No other money was raised except Sunday School funds. The Fourth Quarterly Conference was held at McFarlan Church. There was some misunderstanding as to the return of the pastor to the work, through an effort to build a parsonage on the work. A great effort had been made to build a parsonage on the Charge, but had failed. There were no special objections to the return of the pastor, therefore, the delegate was instructed to ask for his return.

1901—The new year, 1901, brought to the Church the same pastor. The Boundary Committee of the Annual Conference added three churches to the seven churches comprising the Wadesboro Circuit, making a total of ten churches. Rev. Mr. Giles did his best to serve all those churches, but could not successfully. Therefore the President appointed him an assistant,

Rev. John Turner, of Pageland, South Carolina. Mr. Turner served the three churches in South Carolina—Rose Hill, Bethesda and Bear Creek.

Another trial was made for a parsonage early in the spring of 1901, at which the church at Peachland became offended in some way, and refused to support the pastor. None of these efforts to build a parsonage became a reality, and no parsonage was built.

The President of the Annual Conference, Rev. C. L. Whitaker, visited New Hope Church in the summer of 1901. He was greatly pleased with the Church and the work being accomplished there.

A revival that year is not remembered. It is believed one was conducted.

The Fourth Quarterly Conference was held at Rose Hill, Pageland, South Carolina. In the stewards' report we find New Hope, which had promised \$25.00, failing in financial strength. They had paid only \$20.77. They promised to do better the next year. The delegate, Mr. O. E. Braswell, of the Rockingham Church, was instructed to ask for the return of Mr. Giles. He consented to return since the request was unanimous.

1902—The request of the delegate was granted by the Annual Conference and Mr. Giles began his fourth year on the Wadesboro Circuit with a greater determination than ever before. The church grew very fast that year. People took greater interest than usual. A revival was conducted some time in August of that year, 1902, with Rev. N. G. Bethea assisting

the pastor. After the revival had continued for a few days Rev. J. W. Self, a young preacher in the Conference, came at the request of Rev. Mr. Bethea. The Rev. Mr. Self was an able young preacher, and did some very effective work in the revival. Rev. Aner B. Haywood was also present in the revival and did some of the preaching. The revival continued about two weeks, and very much and lasting good was accomplished.

The Fourth Conference was held at Mt. Moriah Church, with nine of the ten churches represented. A motion was put before the body that the work be again divided into two circuits, as the circuit, with ten churches, was too much for one pastor to look after. Finally the delegate was instructed to ask the Boundary Committee to divide the Circuit in some way. The Conference left it to the Boundary Committee as to how the division should be made.

The stewards' report was made, which found New Hope Church on top. They had promised \$30.00 and paid \$32.00. There was also \$4.67 raised on the Conference Burdget.

The delegate was left uninstructed as to the request for a pastor since the Circuit was expecting to be divided. Therefore, it was left to the Stationing Committee to appoint a pastor for each circuit.

The work was divided, Bear Creek, Bethesda, Rose Hill, Mt. Moriah, New Salem and New Hope, constituted a circuit to be known as the Monroe Circuit, and was left unsupplied. The other part of the former Circuit was known as the Wadesboro Circuit.

REV. J. H. TURNER, 1903

REV. W. D. REED, 1904

REV. I. I. YORK, 1905

New Hope waited for some time, and no pastor came. The President, Dr. T. M. Johnston, was asked to supply the Circuit with a pastor. He immediately came to their rescue, and appointed Rev. John Turner, of Pageland, South Carolina, who before had served the three churches in South Carolina, which this year were made a part of the Monroe Circuit.

Rev. Mr. Turner was a very able preacher, and had done some very effective work in the South Carolina Conference, of which he was President for several terms, before he came to the North Carolina Conference. Few objected to Rev. Mr. Turner as pastor, but the objections did not amount to anything. The people who objected soon learned, through the interest he took in the work at New Hope, that he was a very desirable pastor. The Sunday School and prayer meeting continued and the Church was benefitted by them. The year continued with the regular routine of work.

At the Fourth Quarterly Conference New Hope reported short again. They had promised \$40.00 on pastor's salary, but paid \$29.64, and had raised \$2.78 on the Conference budget. It is not known how the delegate was instructed at this Conference.. Although

the Monroe Circuit was left unsupplied, perhaps, because the Circuit was divided again. The three churches in South Carolina were detached from the Monroe Circuit, and made a Circuit to be known as the Chesterfield Circuit, and Rev. John H. Turner was appointed as its pastor. Grace Chapel was attached back to the Monroe Circuit, also another Church.

1904—About thirty days after Conference, Mr. T. P. Ross received notice from the President that pastor supply would immediately be made for New Hope. Early in the Conference year, 1904, notice was given that Rev. W. D. Reed had been appointed as pastor. Pastor Reed soon came to the work with great zeal and determination. He was a young man just serving his first pastorate.

The winter of that Conference year was very rough and stormy, but that did not hinder Pastor Reed in his work. All the regular appointments were met, many times when no one but himself, was present. Great work was done in the church that year. The church had not yet been painted, the pastor appointed a committee to gather funds to do this work. The necessary funds were gathered and the church was painted that summer, and the grounds were greatly improved. The Sunday School revived again, in the spring with Mr. Cull M. Richardson as Superintendent. The Church thrived greatly under the pastorate of Rev. Mr. Reed, and the work he did was very satisfactory.

A very successful revival was conducted late in August. The Rev. H. S. B. King assisted the pastor in the revival. Pastor Reed reported many converted, and a good number added to the church.

At the Fourth Quarterly Conference Rev. Mr. Reed was asked to return to the work the next year, and a unanimous vote was cast in his favor, but the splendid work he had done on the Monroe Circuit spread over the Conference, and pressing demands were made for him in the Annual Conference to larger and better fields. Rev. Mr. Reed was assigned to the Mecklenburg Circuit.

1905—Rev. I. I. York was assigned to the Monroe Circuit for the Conference year 1905. He immediately came to the work to look it over, and finally decided to give it a trial. He was a very aged man with very peculiar habits and unusual ideas, but did a very splendid work in the church. He was an ideal pastor, and was very interested in his work and visited his members regularly and often. Few of the other churches of the charge did not like him as pastor or preacher. In spite of this he did some very effective work on the Charge, especially at New Hope Church. A revival was conducted early in August. Rev. Aner B. Haywood assisted the pastor in the revival work.

The Fourth Quarterly Conference was held at Grace Chapel late in October. New Hope had paid the pastor's salary in full, but had failed to raise anything on the budget. New Hope asked for the return of Rev. Mr. York, but the other churches asked for a change. The other churches over ruled, and the delegate was instructed to ask for a change.

REV. J. B. PARHAM, 1906
REV. C. W. BALIFF, 1907

The delegate had been asked, by individuals, to get Rev. J. B. Parham, which he did. The Annual Conference granted the request of the delegate, and the Rev. Mr. Parham was assigned to the Monroe Circuit.

He immediately came to the work, and made a very deep impression on the people at New Hope Church. In about thirty days after he came to the work he moved into the community of Grace Chapel Church.

Since Pastor Parham lived in the Grace Chapel community he rendered some very fine and pleasing work in that church in the early part of the year. He very often visited, a week at the time, in the New Hope Community, and in so doing, he gained great favor in the hearts of the people there. He appeared to be such a spiritual man, worldly people flocked to him for spiritual comfort. His regular services at New Hope were largely attended by the whole community.

The Second Quarterly Conference was held at New Hope Church, with only four of the churches represented. Some objections were made about some accusations the pastor had made against Mr. Jack Furr and family, members of Grace Chapel Church. No charge was brought against the pastor at the time.

But soon after the Second Quarterly Conference Rev. Mr. Parham erased or dropped Mr. Furr and family's name from the Church roll.

The revival of that year is well remembered by several, to be a very successful one. So far as we have been able to learn, the revival was conducted by the pastor with the exception of a few times the Rev. Aner B. Haywood was present, who assisted in every way he could. The first week of the revival greatly revived the Church and several were reclaimed. On the beginning of the second week, there were a large number wonderfully converted. Among that number were Mr. Lee Aycoth and Mr. John Wesley Richardson, who afterwards become two of New Hope's most dependable official members.

The Third Quarterly Conference was conducted with the regular routine of business. Late in October the Fourth Quarterly Conference was held at Grace Chapel Church. New Hope reported pastor's salary over paid, Conference Claims also paid. Everything was thought to be peaceable, when, just before time to instruct the delegate, Mr. Jack Furr preferred charges against Pastor Parham for unofficially dropping him and his family from the Church roll. This soon agitated trouble in the Conference, from which the delegate was left uninstructed. It was also expressed in the Conference that Pastor Parham had been encouraging the people of Grace Chapel Church to unite with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Without any doubts, he was the cause of that church uniting with the Methodist Episcopal Conference in 1908.

The charge brought by Mr. Furr in that Conference, was deferred to the First or Second Quarterly Conference of the next year, 1907, to be settled in the Presence of the President of the Annual Conference, since Pastor Parham did not intend to leave the community in which he was living, whether or not he was assigned as pastor. Although he had great hopes of returning the next year as pastor.

1907—For some unknown reason Rev. Mr. Parham was not assigned to any work, but was left in the hands of the President, and Rev. C. W. Baliff was assigned to the Monroe Charge, and he soon came to the work. Pastor Baliff brought the first phonograph to the New Hope community. On Saturday nights, before his regular appointments, he would give regular entertainments in schoolhouses or homes, and often charge admission. Pastor Baliff did not have time to fill his regular appointments. Some of the official members of the church asked him to stop his worldly entertainments and put his efforts to the spiritual interests of the church. He ignored that advice, and continued in his usual way. He began to come into the community early in the week and conducted his entertainments in public places or anywhere he would receive a chance. The officials of New Hope Church inquired of his conduct at the other Churches of the Charge. In the First Quarterly Conference, the officials of the entire Charge asked Pastor Baliff to improve his way of conducting himself or they would reject him as pastor of the whole Charge.

He promised to do better, although he said he did not see any harm in the entertainments he was giving. Someone reminded him that it was not altogether the harm that it might or might not be, but it was the neglecting of his ministerial work. After the Conference he continued his worldly entertainments with no sign of halting. It was reported that two of the churches rejecting him as pastor soon after the First Quarterly Conference.

The Second Quarterly Conference was called early in the year, and was conducted by the President of the Annual Conference, Rev. E. W. Swain. In this Conference reports were made against Pastor Baliff. The President asked the pastor to make a report of his work, and also asked him if he wished to defend himself against the charge the Conference had brought against him. He offered no pastoral report, neither did he offer to defend himself of the alleged charge. The President asked for the wish of the Conference. On motion the body cast votes to determine what would be done. At the close of the ballot it was found that it was the wish of the body that Pastor Baliff be released from his pastoral duties of the Monroe Circuit. That was immediately done by the President. Immediately after Mr. Baliff was released, New Hope asked that the Rev. J. B. Parham be appointed to fill the vacancy. The other churches of the Charge were very bitterly opposed to the move. Then, T. P. Ross, an official of New Hope Church, made an appeal to the President that Mr.: Parham be permitted to serve New Hope Church alone. The President

would not grant this request until the case against Mr. Parham, which had been brought by Mr. Jack Furr, had been disposed of. When the case was called it was learned that Mr. Furr was very ill, and was unable to attend the hearing, but had asked Mr. J. D. A. Secrete to represent him in the case. After all the facts in the case were heard by the President, he overruled in the matter. After the trial the President would not grant the request of Mr. Ross for New Hope Church. Therefore, New Hope, with the other churches of the Charge, was left without a pastor the remainder of that year, 1907. After the President was informed of the work done by the Rev. Mr. Parham to get Grace Chapel to unite with the Methodist Episcopal Conference, he asked him to discontinue any or all local work on the Charge.

The work moved on exceptionally well at New Hope the remainder of the year. It is not remembered who conducted the revival that year; in all probability one was not held at all.

The Fourth Quarterly Conference was conducted at New Hope Church, November 9th, 1907. As there was no pastor on the Charge since the Rev. Mr. Baliff had left early in the year, the Rev. Mr. Parham was appointed by officials to serve as Chairman of the Quarterly Conference, with T. P. Ross Secretary pro tem. Official members present from New Hope were: D. L. Ross, T. P. Ross, J. T. Cook, J. R. Belk and J. E. Cook. J. T. Cook was elected delegate to the Annual Conference and was left uninstructed.

REV. Wm. P. MARTIN, 1908-1911

The people of New Hope looked forward with anxious hearts to the coming of the new pastor. It had been reported that Rev. Durant Garmon had been assigned to the work. This pleased the people of New Hope, as he had assisted in a revival there some time before. His father, Rev. John Garmon, had been pastor of the Monroe Circuit before New Hope was established. Two months passed and the pastor had not come. About the first of January, 1908, notice was given that the Rev. Mr. Garmon had gone back to what is now known as Connelly Springs Charge, a work which he served for about sixteen years.

On or about January 15th, 1908, word was received from the President of the Conference that Rev. Wm. P. Martin had been appointed pastor of the Circuit, and would be on the work by the first of February of that year. Mr. Martin came at the appointed time and filled his first appointment at New Hope Church the first Sunday in February. He was not a stranger to this people, as he had assisted in several revivals prior to this time. After the morning service Rev. Mr. Martin talked freely concerning the work and its problems, talking mostly of the condition of Grace Chapel Church.

The movement which had been started by Rev. Mr. Parham to turn the church into a Methodist Episcopal Church, had caused a division. Most of the influential

members were for the change. Rev. Mr. Martin was very much undecided whether to try to fill any appointments there, although he did make several attempts.

The First Quarterly Conference was to be held at Grace Chapel, but they could not obtain entrance to the church building, so an empty building was secured from a neighbor which was used. This was on April 18th, 1908. The regular business of the Conference was transacted by electing officials for the year. T. P. Ross and J. M. Yarbrough were added to the steward list of New Hope. Some of the churches added to their pledges on pastor's salary, but New Hope's pledge stood at \$60.00, which was still the highest pledge.

The report from Class Leader and Trustees from Grace Chapel were very sad to the people struggling to hold the Church together. We will not give these reports, but will give a report which appeared in "Our Church Record" of June 11th, 1908. This will also show the efforts of Pastor Martin to save the Church for the Methodist Protestant Conference:

GRACE CHAPEL, MONROE CIRCUIT

Dear Brother McCulloch:

Permit me to report through your columns. Excuse me if my letter should be a little long, for the report will cover about four months. But I will be brief. Our pastor, Rev. W. P. Martin, reached Monroe work in February; his first appointment at Grace was the third Sunday in February, but we found the door was locked against us. Brother Martin stood against the outer wall of the church and preached a helpful sermon while his congregation sat around on the ground.

Didn't fill the appointment on third Sunday in March; was gone home after his horse and buggy.

First Quarterly Conference was to be held with the church at Grace Saturday before the third Sunday in April. Both pastor and people were on the ground, but the door was locked against us and no means of getting the key. Our friend and neighbor, Mr. J. T. Helms, tendered us the use of a little farm house down in the field, which we repaired and where we held the first Quarterly Conference, and the business of the conference was transacted in a spirit of harmony and love.

Next appointment, third Sunday in May. Our pastor was promptly on the grounds and a large congregation greeted him, but on Sunday morning just before the congregation assembler the hammer was heard ringing in the church and on investigation it was found that the door was not only locked but there was a piece of timber nailed from door post to door post across the door on the inside of the church. Brother Martin said he could not ask his congregation to sit on the ground and hear him preach but thought the thing to do was to shake the dust off his feet as a witness against them because he had brought the gospel of peace to them and they had not received him. Our pastor did not preach. As he had no appointment for the fifth Sunday, he published two appointments for Grace in our county paper, one at 11 A. M. and one at 3 P. M. But after the appointments had gone out and on Thursday night before the fifth Sunday, Rev. Mr. Burrus, the M. E. preacher at Grace, announced an appointment. Both preachers were on the ground. Rev. Mr. Burrus took the pulpit and held the congregation two hours. Brother Martin went in and heard him preach, the first time he had been in the church; he did not preach. After the service closed it was said there would be a young peoples' meeting in the church at 3:00 P. M. Brother Martin did not go to the church in the afternoon; he said it was no use. We secured permission from our Baptist brethren, the school committee, to hold a service in the schoolhouse, and on the first Sunday in June Brother Martin preached a soul-stirring sermon on the great Love of God, which made a good impres-

sion on his congregation. I received a copy of the Minutes from Brother Andrews yesterday and was glad to know the stand the Boundary Committee has taken for Grace. We think we have men that are made out of the kind of stuff that will carry out the request of the Boundary Committee. We expect to call a trustee meeting soon and decide on some plan of action, but I promised to be brief. We hope this report will not find its way to the waste basket on account of its length, and we hope that our next report will be more encouraging. Finally, brethren, pray for us.

D. DEES, Reporter.

The Methodist Protestant Conference, as well as the Monroe Circuit, struggled hard to hold Grace Chapel, but undermining work had been done too long, so that what the Conference and the Circuit did was of no profit to them. Mr. T. P. Ross and others of New Hope assisted the pastor in his great effort to hold Grace Chapel, but during this time a Methodist Episcopal minister had been appointed to serve Grace Chapel. Finally, before the end of the year all efforts were declared in vain, and no further efforts were made to hold the church. Records show that the Annual Conference tried to hold the church property, but finally failed.

The Second Quarterly Conference was held at Mt. Moriah, June 13th, 1908. Reports were given in their regular order. In these reports was a brief report from the Sunday School Superintendent of New Hope, J. E. Cook, Mr. Cook spoke very favorably of the Sunday School. Stewards' report was next given, the report from New Hope being given by T. P. Ross. This report showed that the sum of \$6.45 had

been paid on pastor's salary. New Hope was in the lead again, the next highest amount paid was \$3.55. At that time Mr. Sidney Billingsly was given license to preach and T. P. Ross was elected delegate to the Sub-District Conference.

New Hope Church greatly prospered during the year, greater Spiritual interest was taken. A very successful revival was reported conducted by the pastor. A prayer meeting was organized later in the year by J. R. Belk and Cull Richardson. This prayer meeting greatly helped the church and Sunday School. It is believed that it was in the early Fall of that year when the Rev. Allison Belk, son of J. Pat Belk, conducted a successful revival at New Hope.

In the late fall and early winter the church suffered greatly when a large number of the members become ill and a number of faithful families moved out of the community, amonge them were T. B. Cook and family who moved to Pleasant Valley, near Fort Mills, South Carolina.

Third Quarterly Conference was held September 12th, 1908. Regular business was transacted. We find New Hope had only paid \$16.55 up until this date, although, still in the lead. Mr. J. F. Little was elected delegate to the Annual Conference.

The Fourth Quarterly Conference was held at New Hope Church on October 31st, 1908. The Minutes of this Conference was very brief, although, we find the Sunday School had been re-organized and J. T. Cook was now Sunday School Supertendent. At that time only two Sunday Schools were on the

entire charge, the one at New Hope and the other seem to go from one church to the other. There was a very small attendance at this Conference, as well as at many of the others, which caused a motion to be made and carried as follows: "In any future Conference, any official member desiring to be absent he will be required to send a written statement showing the cause of such absence". The pastor reported the salary very much behind, this was mostly caused by Grace Chapel failing to do its part. Several had paid their assessment on pastor's salary. These could not pay the whole amount. There were no figures given in the report, therefore, it is not known just the amount which was paid. Although \$300.00 was promised for the next year.

P. L. Jones was licensed to Exhort at that conference. It is not known just what church Mr. Jones was from.

The delegate, Mr. Little, was instructed to ask for the return of Rev. Martin as pastor for the next year.

The new year opened with a bright future with Rev. Martin remaining as pastor. Reports show that the Annual Conference gave the Charge a new Church, Rose Hill, of Pageland, South Carolina. This help was greatly needed and other Churches of the Monroe Charge gladly welcomed Rose Hill.

In the First Quarterly Conference the pastor's salary was raised from three hundred to three hundred and fifty dollars. Officials were appointed and reports were read. In appointing the officials J. W.

Quick was appointed Chairman of the Board of Stewards of Rose Hill. This is the first account we have of this great man who meant so much in later years to New Hope Church. T. P. Ross was appointed Sunday School Superintendent for New Hope.

The Second Quarterly Conference was conducted in May. This report shows that the Church located in or near Peachland had failed, and a committee was appointed to look after the property there. A parsonage building committee was also appointed as follows: T. B. Smith, Bascom Swanner, J. F. Little and S. C. Billingsly, chairman.

Just before Rev. Martin came as pastor of the Monroe Circuit in 1908, he had the misfortune of losing his wife, and was living and working without the aid of a companion, which made the task greater. While serving the Peachland Church, a part of the Monroe Circuit at that time, he became acquainted with Miss Lillie Harrington of that community, and after about two years acquaintance they were married on the 6th day of August, 1909. Immediately after his marriage he conducted a revival at New Hope with Rev. A. B. Haywood assisting.

On September 11th, 1909, the Third Quarterly Conference was held at New Hope Church. At that time a committee of four was appointed to sell the Peachland property, they being: W. P. Martin, J. A. Turner, T. B. Smith, and Calvin Baily. The proceeds of said property to go to the erection of a parsonage for the Monroe Charge.

The Fourth Quarterly Conference was held at Rose Hill Church on November 13th, 1909. At the request of the pastor, the Rev. John A. Turner, a retired minister of the Methodist Protestant Church, presided over this Conference. J. A. Turner was elected secretary. Reports were submitted and the pastor's salary was fixed at \$400.00. J. A. Turner, official delegate to the Annual Conference, was instructed to ask for the return of Rev. Martin to the Monroe Circuit. At this Conference the members issued a written request petitioning the Boundary Committee to detach Mt. Moriah and Friendship Churches from the Monroe Circuit and recommended Bethsaida and Bear Creek be attached in their stead. It appears that this request was justly granted in the way that Friendship was detached and Bathisda attached in its stead, but still holding Mt. Moriah.

In the first appointments of the new Conference year, 1910, the pastor expressed his thanks to the people for requesting his return to the Monroe work. He spoke very favorably of the change that had been made in the boundary of the Circuit, because he was now living in Pageland, S. C., and the change brought his work closer together.

The First Quarterly Conference was held at Rose Hill Church December 18th, 1909. Regular reports were read, in which the committee appointed to sell the Peachland property made their report. The property had been sold for an amount of \$250.00. The Conference ruled that \$45.00 of this amount be used to pay overdue parsonage rent of the past Conference

year, and \$5.00 be used to pay for the issuing of papers and expenses of the sale of said property. The remaining \$200.00 to be applied on the erection of a parsonage, on which a committee was working at the time.

The work at all the Churches was doing unusually well. The pastor gave New Hope several evening services before Christmas which helped very much. Just before Christmas T. B. Cook and family moved back into the community after having lived in South Carolina two years.

In February a Called Conference of the Circuit was held in Pageland in the interest of the building of a parsonage at Pageland for the Circuit. The committee had located a building site and was ready to act. A Board of Trustees was elected as follows: J. A. Turner, T. B. Smith and J. W. Quick. The \$200.00 on hand was ordered paid on the parsonage property.

During the summer an unusual interest was taken by most people in the church, the Sunday School grew above anything it had been before. A very successful revival was conducted early in September. It is not remembered who assisted the pastor, if anyone.

The Fourth Quarterly Conference was held November 13th, 1910, at Rose Hill. For some reason New Hope was not represented in this Conference. We also find New Hope was absent in many of the future Conferences for a number of years. It is not to be said that New Hope had lost interest in its work, but that most of the Conferences were held at the Pageland Church. It is believed this was done for the convenience of the pastor who, at this time, lived in Page-

land. The officials of New Hope showed great interest in their local work.

Reports were offered in their regular order, the pastor's report shows that New Hope had paid her part of the pastor's salary for the year just closed, all others being behind. Rose Hill promised to have theirs by Conference. Parsonage Trustees reported the parsonage finished, and the Circuit owed the amount of \$676.09, of which \$276.09 was now due.

In this Conference E. H. Mullis was granted license to preach. The pastor's salary was fixed at \$400.00. A committee was appointed to apportion the amounts to the churches of the charge, and report at the First Quarterly Conference. The Conference again recommended Mt. Moriah be taken from the Monroe Circuit and add Bear Creek instead. The delegate was instructed to ask for the return of Rev. Martin as pastor for the year 1911. Rev. Martin made the statement that he thought his work was finished there, and asked for a change, but also stated that he would return if the Conference thought it best.

During the Annual Conference session Rev. Martin was assigned to the Caldwell Circuit, now known as Connelly Springs Circuit. The Monroe Circuit was left without a supply. Immediately after the session of the Annual Conference, T. P. Ross, from New Hope, and a delegation from some of the other churches of the Circuit held a private conference. They made a very strong appeal to the President of the Conference, Rev. W. E. Swain, for the return of Rev. Wm. P. Martin as pastor, as he had not yet moved from

the parsonage at Pageland, South Carolina. These faithful men found favor in the eyes of the President, and the Rev. Martin was released from his appointment to Caldwell Circuit and assigned to the Monroe work.

The people of New Hope Church were indeed proud to have Rev. Martin again as pastor. New Hope with the other churches of the Circuit, pledged to stand by their faithful pastor better this year than in past years, since they came so near losing him. Reports of the Annual Conference show that Bear Creek was attached to the Monroe Charge, Mt. Moriah also remaining.

The First Quarterly Conference was called January 11th, 1911, and held at Pageland. The following were elected as Conference and Church officials of New Hope: J. R. Belk on Advisory Committee and Steward; T. P. Ross, steward and Sunday School Superintendent; J. M. Yarbough steward, Cull Richardson, class leader; J. P. Aycoth to collect funds for a parsonage.

The Second Quarterly Conference was held at New Hope in April. Nothing of interest was done. The Third Quarterly Conference was held at Bethesda in July, J. A. Turner was declared elected delegate to the Annual Conference, over J. M. Yarbrough, of New Hope. The pastor's report shows that New Hope was slightly behind on pastor's salary.

In the Fourth Quarterly Conference held in November, 1911, the pastor gave a very encouraging report of the year's work. New Hope Church had paid

pastor's salary in full, all Conference claims had been paid in full, the claims for President's salary was almost double paid. The entire Charge was to pay \$400.00 as pastor's salary, but at the time only \$325.00 had been paid. The Circuit was assessed \$16.82 for Conference Claims, \$29.80 was paid, besides, large amounts from all churches were paid on the parsonage debt, and repair work done on a number of the churches. In his report Rev. Martin asked that he not be considered as pastor for the coming year. He was asked to reconsider and come back for one more year, but he did not think it best. Since Rev. Martin refused to consider the Circuit for the year 1912, the delegate, J. A. Turner, was left uninstructed. The pastor's salary was fixed at \$460.00, of which New Hope's part was \$100.00.

REV. J. W. SELF—1912

At the Annual Conference Session the fall of 1911, held in Henderson, N. C., Rev. W. P. Martin and J. W. Self exchanged places, Rev. Martin was assigned to Mecklenburg and Rev. J. W. Self came to the Monroe work. In this Conference Mt. Moriah church was attached back to the Monroe Circuit, therefore, the work was more able to support a pastor.

A long period of extreme winter weather delayed the pastor's moving into the parsonage at Pageland, S. C. Soon it was thought the weather moderate enough for the long trip. By the time the wagons were half way between Matthews and Pageland it began to snow, which proved to be a very large snow and almost stopped traffic. The pastor, J. W. Self, and family, was traveling by buggy, and came through the New Hope community. He stopped in some of the homes during the snow storm, and was snow-bound for about two weeks. Soon he resumed his journey to his new home in Pageland, S. C.

Rev. Self began his work in the new field with zeal and determination and the people liked him very much.

In the spring he purchased a Saxon automobile, in which to travel his Circuit. This was a new and an unusual thing, the people of New Hope Church now looked upon their pastor with pride, because he came to his appointments in an automobile.

The Second Quarterly Conference was held April 20th, 1912, at the Pageland Church, with the pastor presiding. New Hope was not represented at this Conference. The pastor reported \$71.93 paid on salary at that time, also spoke very favorably of the entire work. John Wesley Quick made application for license to preach. He was examined by the Committee and the license was granted. Rev. Quick later became the pastor of the Circuit, but always lived in Pageland, S. C., where he held a position as postmaster.

Very little is remembered of the local activities this year. It is not known who assisted in the revival or what time of year it was held.

The Third Quarterly Conference was to be held at Mt. Moriah, but a report is not given, although, we find that Mr. J. C. Braswell was elected as delegate to the annual conference. At this time all the churches were struggling to pay a large parsonage debt, to make it more discouraging all the churches but Rose Hill, the Pageland Church, was showing very little interest, so much that the Fourth Quarterly Conference moved to drop all the churches on the circuit except Rose Hill, Bethesda, Bear Creek and New Hope. A committee was appointed to dispose of the church and property at Polkton, N. C., which had already gone down some time before. John R. Belk, of New Hope, was one of the committee.

This year closed with the entire work behind \$128 on pastor's salary. New Hope was behind some on

her part, but promised to try to raise the amount before Annual Conference. It is not known if this was done. About all other claims were reported paid and a large amount reported used in repairing church buildings. Pastor's salary was fixed at \$325.00 for the next year. This was divided between four churches of which New Hope's part was \$60.00. It is not known how the delegate was instructed, but Rev. Self did not return the next year.

REV. O. D. STACY—1913

Rev. O. D. Stacy was appointed pastor of the charge, and Rev. Self went to Mocksville. Rev. Stacy moved to Pageland, the home of the Circuit parsonage, and began his work early.

This year seemed to be the turning point in the history of New Hope Church. From the organization of this church until about 1912 and 1913 it was the outstanding church of the entire circuit, but in 1912 it began to fail in many of its outstanding features. The year 1913 and several years following, dropped almost below recognition. For several years it was not represented in the quarterly conferences. John R. Belk was the outstanding official and representative of the church during this time. Rose Hill, of Pageland, S. C., was the dominating church of the Charge. The parsonage, of course, was there, and many or all the strong and talented members of the charge were members of that church. Few quarterly conferences from 1913 are found recorded except those held at the Pageland church, which was at least two each year. The reports of conferences and official meetings conducted at New Hope Church and the other smaller churches of the Charge are not available until about 1920. You will notice the declining financial interest of New Hope for several years, compared with what it had done in the past and to other churches of the charge.

The First Quarterly Conference is not reported, but the Second Quarterly Conference was held at the Pageland Church on April 19th, 1913. New Hope was not represented, although, J. P. Aycoth was elected as one of the committee on examination. Both nominees for delegate to the Annual Conference were from the Pageland Church, W. L. Marze and J. A. Turner. It is not known why any of the other churches were not recognized in this important office. Bethesda was chosen as the place for the Third Quarterly Conference, and we suppose it was held there, but no record is found in the reports.

As usual, the last or Fourth Quarterly Conference was held at Pageland on November 14th, 1913. John R. Belk was the only representative from New Hope. The report of the pastor was favorable, all the pastor's salary, which was \$390.00, was paid, most all claims of the conference were paid, some items were over paid.

New Salem and Mt. Moriah churches were still on the Monroe Charge, but were very weak, and could not be depended upon for the next year. It was again suggested that these two churches be dropped from the charge, but for some reason they were not dropped at this time. It was hoped that these churches could be helped by the Annual Conference. A motion was put before the Conference that the Monroe Charge would hereafter be known as the Pageland Charge. This motion carried, and for sixteen years it was known as the Pageland Charge. The pastor's salary was fixed at \$445.00. Mt. Moriah and New Sal-

em churches would not accept their part, neither would New Hope accept all their part, which was only \$65.00. Then the salary was brought down to \$315.00. W. L. Mirze was the official delegate to the Annual Conference and he was not officially instructed.

At this time a very favorable report was made by J. W. Quick, a local preacher. This Conference sent a recommendation to the Annual Conference recommending him to the Stationing Committee for work. This recommendation was favorably accepted and Rev. J. W. Quick was given work in the Conference.

REV. J. W. QUICK—1914-1924

The year 1914, and the following year 1915, were the most trying years of the existence of New Hope Church, in the opinion of the writer. As was mentioned in the chapter before this one, New Hope was failing, and it can be easily seen that it was failing fast. All the other North Carolina churches of this Charge had failed, and it was greatly feared that New Hope was going to fail. Since the other North Carolina churches had failed the Charge lost its old name, "Monroe" Charge. Since most of the interest was in Pageland, S. C., the name was changed to "Pageland" Charge.

Rev. Stacy was left in the hands of the President, and Rev. J. W. Quick was assigned as pastor. This was Rev. Quick's first pastoral work. At first New Hope bitterly opposed Rev. Quick as pastor, some openly opposed him and asked him not to fill any appointments at New Hope. By this time the pastor realized that he had a problem in New Hope Church. He was a man true to his name, "Quick," and was well able to handle the job, and at once informed the church and those who opposed him, that he was pastor of the church for one year and would preach there if he did not receive a penny for his service. Undoubtedly New Hope remembered this, for no one seemed to show any interest the whole year. They only paid

about \$45.00 of the \$65.00 that was assigned as their part. Rev. Quick only received \$260.00 from the whole charge this year.

The First Quarterly Conference was to be held at New Hope Church, but for the lack of interest from them, and the lack of co-operation, it was held at the Pageland Church. New Hope was not represented in this Conference. New Hope was named as the place for the Second Quarterly Conference, although no record can be found of either the Second or Third Quarterly Conference. The reason for these reports not being available, in the writer's judgment, is because of the failure of the secretary to attend the conference held at the other churches besides his home church. Neither did he receive the minutes of these conferences to be placed in the records.

Some time during this year Mrs. Tressie Helms, wife of Fisher Helms, passed to her reward. Mrs. Helms was a charter member of the church. She was laid to rest in the New Hope Cemetery.

The Fourth Quarterly Conference was held late in the year, November 13th, 1914, at Rose Hill Church of Pageland. John R. Belk was the only representative of New Hope Church. At this time it seems that the Pageland Church was the only church backing Pastor Quick. They made a strong plea for his return, and their strength was sufficient to carry things their way. J. E. Turner of the Pageland Church, was delegate to the Annual Conference, and since this last Quarterly Conference was composed largely of the members of the Pageland Church, he was instruct-

ed to ask for the return of Rev. Quick. Pastor's salary was again fixed at \$315.00. New Hope was again assessed \$65.00. Mt. Moriah and New Salem churches were still on the charge this year, but nothing was reported that they did in a financial way, so they were dropped from the charge and appointments for good. The property of these two churches was handled later by special committees.

1915—In 1915 Rev. Quick returned to the work for his second year, still brave and willing to work under many handicaps.

It is very necessary that we say what we do about the other churches on the charge, for it is by them that we gauge the strength of New Hope Church. In those days many may have doubted that New Hope would ever come back in strength, but at this time a large and fine bunch of young men and girls are finding their places and feeling their responsibility in this struggling church. There were many vacancies made by the older ones who had fallen by the wayside or had passed on to their rewards. As we read these pages I trust we will watch many of these as they step into action.

The year 1915 must have been the crisis. No interest was shown by the church, but the same faithful pastor was careful to fill every appointment, which was once each month. Later in the year he would give extra services occasionally by preaching Sunday morning and at night.

First Quarterly Conference was held at Rose Hill, the Pageland Church on January 14th, 1915. New

Hope was not represented, although T. P. Ross was elected on the Advisory Committee. A committee was appointed to sell the New Salem Church and property.

The Second Quarterly Conference was held at New Hope Church, but no record of the proceedings was given.

The last Quarterly Conference of the year 1915 was held November 11th, at the Pageland Church. John R. Belk was again the only representative of New Hope. His report to the Conference showed that the last part of the year was on a climb over 1914. More had been paid on pastor's salary than the year before, but it was only in the last part of the year that an increase in interest was shown. One of the younger men, Joe Ross, came at this time and took his place in the church, and was placed on the board of stewards with J. P. Aycoth and John R. Belk. The pastor's salary was fixed at \$335.00. This time New Hope stepped up five dollars, and made their part \$70.00, Bethesda still leading New Hope five dollars, Bear Creek falling far below. J. E. Smith was elected delegate and was instructed to ask for the return of Rev. Quick as pastor. The pastor's report showed that he only received \$286.00 for the year 1915.

For the past few years, including 1915, New Hope was the second weakest church on the charge, Bear Creek first and New Hope second. For several years Bethesda rated above New Hope and showed much more interest, but watch New Hope climb the next few years.

1916—The opening of the Conference year found New Hope working, taking on new life. For some reason the whole church appeared to be proud of the return of Rev. Quick as pastor. After two years of hard work and patience with those people, he began to weave himself into their affections. More people began to take greater interest. J. H. Baker and family, G. R. Montgomery, J. H. Clawson and family were an added interest to the church, besides a host of young people growing into its service. The Belk boys, DeWitt, Tom, Robert, Worth, Ottis, Paul, Charlie, the girls, Era, Rebecca, Rosa, the Aycoth boys and girls, Lee, Jake, Bundy, Ellis, Luther, Dove, Wincie, Susie, the Ross boys and girls, Joe, Henry, Raymond, Ernest, Carl, Bunion, Lovin, Ida, Mary, Lula, Bright; the Cook boys, Crawford and Earl, then too Canty, and the Richardson girls, Lula and Lillie, and there were a host of Penigar boys and girls. All these and many others, seem to have come in at once, many giving and offering their services. Sunday School took on new life, of which J. W. Richardson was superintendent.

The First Quarterly Conference was held February 17th, 1916, at Rose Hill, of Pageland, S. C., the weather was reported as rough and cold, and for this reason only the Pageland Church was represented. At this Conference Joe Ross was elected as one of the advisory Committee.

On March 21st, 1916, Cull M. Richardson, one of New Hope's Sunday School Pioneers and church leaders, passed on to his reward. For several years before

his death he was unable to attend the church services, but he was always there in spirit.

The next Quarterly Conference was held at New Hope with much interest shown, only New Hope and the Pageland Church represented.

A revival was conducted this year by the pastor, the people had grown to love their pastor enough that they thought no other preacher could preach better than he, and too, this was true, Rev. Quick was growing better each year, until now his messages were very impressive.

On November 16th, 1916, the Fourth Quarterly Conference was held at the Pageland Church, John R. Belk representing New Hope Church. The Pastor reported in his personal report that New Hope paid in full their part of the pastor's salary, Although he only received \$302.00 from all churches. Bear Creek and Bethesda failed to pay their parts.

The following were appointed stewards for New Hope: John R. Belk, J. P. Aycoth and Joe Ross. The pastor's salary was fixed at \$335.00, of which New Hope's part was \$75.00. M. D. Roscoe, of Bethesda, was the official delegate to the Annual Conference, and was instructed to ask for the return of Rev. Quick.

1917—The new conference year opened with a greater interest taken by everyone. At this time rumors that the United States would enter the great World War, were being taken seriously. The Sunday School during the winter was large and regularly attended. J. H. Baker was officially elected Choir lead-

er, or singing leader. Mrs. T. B. Cook was organist. Mrs. Cook had been organist since the church had purchased an organ in 1913. Joe Ross was also a noted singer. He and Mr. Baker took much interest in the singing, and by summer a very splendid choir was organized.

January 22nd, 1917, the First Quarterly Conference was held at the Pageland church. Several represented New Hope Church in the conference. According to the pastor's report a great year was predicted at all the churches on the Charge. New Hope was spoken of very highly. The report revealed the fact that L. S. Helms had just been elected Sunday School Superintendent of New Hope Sunday School. Mr. Helms had been a member of New Hope Church for several years, and had been taking an unusual part in the activities of the church all the while. John R. Belk was elected as a member of the advisory committee. This Conference had an unusual problem. The parsonage trustees were pressed by the huge debt on the parsonage. After discussion, it was decided the debt could not be paid, and the trustees were given power to dispose of it in any way to relieve the churches of the debt. New Hope was set as the place to hold the next Conference, which was held in May, Rose Hill and New Hope were the only churches represented. The regular business of the conference was transacted. Then, as a surprise to many, L. S. Helms, Sunday School Superintendent of New Hope, asked for license to preach. He was examined by the proper committee and the request was granted.

During the Spring and summer months the Sunday School had outgrown its quarters. The little one-room church was filled each Sunday, until there was hardly room to separate the classes. The pastor suggested that additional room be built to the church. Many or all the officials, before considering the need, thought it impossible to do this. The winter months came and many stopped going to church, thus making room for those who did attend.

November 15th, 1917, the Fourth Quarterly Conference was held at the Pageland Church. John R. Belk, Lee Helms and L. S. Helms represented New Hope Church. The pastor's report was very interesting. In the report the pastor spoke of the success of New Hope. The pastor had not given up the idea or the hope of New Hope building in the coming spring. Rev. L. S. Helms, a local preacher since May, and Sunday School Superintendent of New Hope, made a verbal report. He told of his intentions to press on until he had a place in the Conference work. Rev. Helms was officially elected as delegate to the Annual Conference, and was instructed to ask for the return of Pastor Quick.

The pastor informed the conference of his need for a car, and asked the churches to help him get one. Times were now some better and the churches could pay more. The salary was fixed at \$400.00. New Hope was to pay \$100.00 of the amount. Bear Creek was not assessed, this was a very weak church in South Carolina, near Bethesda, and was trying to die, which it did a few years later.

1918—Rev. Quick returned for his fifth year on the Pageland Charge. The Sunday School at New Hope was holding up well, some Sundays during the winter the little church was crowded. Early in the year the pastor appointed J. P. Aycoth, J. H. Baker and Robert Cook as building committee, who at once began to accept pledges, and make arrangements to start building. Money was collected and necessary material was pledged to be placed on the ground during May, June or July. Beginning about the last days of July, 1918, a south wing was built to the church, which added much to the seating capacity. Most everyone contributed to this work, and enough money was raised to re-cover the south side of the old part of the church, which was greatly needed.

Only the First Quarterly Conference is recorded of 1918. This one was held at the Pageland Church on March 22nd. L. S. Helms was Sunday School Superintendent that year, and the following were the faithful stewards: L. S. Helms, John R. Belk and J. P. Aycoth. Some time during the year one of New Hope's charter members passed to his reward, known to his friends as Uncle Fisher Helms. His companion had gone before him in 1914. Mr. Helms was faithful as long as he was able to attend. He was a brother of Mrs. John R. Belk.

The pastor's hopes of getting a car faded during the year, but his need for one increased so much that he made another appeal to his churches for help. He promised the churches, if they would help, he would give each church two services each month the next

year. The times were still much better, and money was easier to get. The salary was fixed at \$700.00 of which New Hope's part was \$250.00.

L. S. Helms was again appointed delegate for the charge, since he had to attend conference for personal reasons. He was instructed to ask for the return of Rev. Quick.

1919—Annual Conference was held in Greensboro, N. C., in Grace Church. Rev. Quick was appointed to succeed himself, and he began his sixth year. The Great War was now over and America was looking forward to the returning of the boys from over there. But in the midst of this joy a horrible epidemic of influenza began to sweep the nation. From the first of September 1918 to March 1919, there were but few services at any church. There were few homes in the community that escaped the first winter. There was sickness in almost all homes, those that escaped were afraid to attend church, and many would not visit their neighbors, as the disease was contagious. During this first epidemic, in September, 1918, Rev. L. S. Helms lost his wife, and on November 1st, 1918, H. O. Penegar lost his wife. These two good mothers were active members of New Hope Church. They are now resting in New Hope cemetery.

The First Quarterly Conference was held at Pageland Church March 27, 1919. Until this date the pastor had filled only one appointment at New Hope, and had received only one dollar on salary. New Hope was not represented at this Conference, and only a very few officials of the Pageland Church were pres-

ent. This was a trying time for the church, and other churches of the charge had lost several by death, and New Hope was fortunate not to lose more than two members during the entire sweep, but many were left weak and almost invalids. During the spring months the epidemic let up, and people soon got back to the regular routine of life, although many homes over the nation were saddened through death.

Everybody now was anxious to go to church. We wonder sometimes if God does not suffer that trouble and destruction come upon a people because they forget Him, His church and His goodness. God suffered destruction to come upon the children of Israel for these things, and God is the same today, yesterday and forever. So people that never went to church before were now regular attendants.

During the summer the new part of the church was ceiled and the interior of the entire church was painted.

On November 12th the Fourth Quarterly Conference was held at the Pageland Church. The pastor submitted a very fine but sad report, in which he reported the deaths on the charge during the year, two were mentioned by name, R. F. Smith of Pageland, S. C., and Thomas Roscoe of Bethesda. In part he said: "Many in all three of the churches all but fell under the grip of the terrible epidemic." Twenty-two were reported to to have joined the church during the year. Pastor's salary was paid in full even though there was a bad start. New Hope more than paid her part.

Pastor Quick expressed his desire to return to the work, but there was some opposition in the Pageland Church, which he thought would over rule others who desired his return. He stated, very proudly, that if he was moved he could turn the work over to his successor in much better condition than he had received it six years before. When the time came to instruct the delegate, a report from New Hope revealed the fact that they were 100 per cent for Pastor Quick's return. A statement was made that New Hope would help support no other pastor. A statement from a representative of Bethesda showed the same, so with just a few words from H. B. Sowell, of the Pageland Church in favor of Pastor Quick, the delegate was instructed to ask for the return of Rev. Quick. Rev. L. S. Helms was again elected as delegate. Rev. Helms was at this time in school at Midland, N. C., under the instruction of Rev. Geo. L. Reynolds. It was unusual to elect one man three times in succession as delegate, but Rev. Helms had to attend each year to meet the Conference Faculty.

Pastor's salary was fixed at \$700.00. Bear Creek asked for service next year. They were asked to pay \$75.00. It is not known that they paid it, although the pastor gave them one service each month the Conference year 1920.

Annual Conference was held in Concord, N. C. Several officials of the Charge visited the Conference there.

1920—Rev. Quick was re-assigned to the Pageland Charge. The people of New Hope were greatly

pleased, many of whom expressed this pleasure to their pastor on his first appointment.

This winter another sweep of the influenza epidemic struck the nation. This one was not as serious as the first, but many were taken by it, although New Hope escaped. Many were sick during the winter and the church was almost abandoned as there were few people to go. The pastor suffered a light attack of the disease, and was unable to fill several appointments.

Early in the conference year the pastor again asked the three churches to help him get a car. T. B. Cook was appointed to raise \$50.00 at New Hope for this purpose. The other churches were also asked to raise a certain amount. In the First Quarterly Conference, held January 16th, 1920, the pastor reported the amounts raised as follows: Rose Hill \$32.00; Bethesda \$50.00 and New Hope \$100.00. A total of \$182.00. By consent of the Conference this amount was given to the pastor as a gift to pay on his car. Payment of \$120.00 was also reported on salary.

A marriage of interest was that of Ellis Aycoth and Miss Fay Moore, on March 27th, 1920. Mrs. Aycoth was not a member of New Hope Church at the time of her marriage, but soon after united with the church and became one of its most dependable members.

J. H. Baker was singing leader at New Hope, Susie Aycoth, now Mrs. Mark Belk, was organist. During these winter months, with so much sickness Mr. Baker

was unable to attend regularly, so Earl A. Cook, then hardly sixteen, was elected as assistant singing leader. The board of stewards was the following: John R. Belk, J. P. Aycoth, T. B. Cook and J. H. Baker. The year was a very successful one, a well attended prayer meeting was in progress during the summer and was conducted by J. W. Richardson and John R. Belk. J. H. Baker was later elected Sunday School superintendent, after L. S. Helms left for School.

The Fourth Quarterly Conference was held at the Pageland Church on November 18th, 1920. A good representation from all three churches was present. The same board of stewards of New Hope was re-elected for the next year. New Hope reported pastor's salary paid in full, which was \$250.00. The other churches fell behind \$45.00 on their part. J. H. Baker of New Hope, was delegate, and T. B. Smith, of Pageland, alternate. Mr. Baker was instructed to ask for the return of the present pastor. The salary was again fixed at \$700.00.

1921—J. H. Baker, the delegate, was unable to attend the Annual Conference, held in Enfield, N. C., but sent a written statement to the president as to the instructions of the Quarterly Conference. Therefore, Rev. J. W. Quick came back to the Pageland Charge for his eighth year.

For some reason 1921 was an off year for New Hope in finances. They had promised \$250.00. It was reported in the First Quarterly Conference, February 2nd, that New Hope had only paid fifty cents in cash, and someone had given the pastor a pig, for

which he had given \$12,50 credit. To make matters even worse than that, on May 7th, three months later, in the Second Quarterly Conference, held at New Hope Church, not another penny had been paid on the salary. Ten dollars was credited to New Hope on Conference claims. We may sometimes wonder how this faithful servant lived. It would have been impossible had it not been for the position he held as Postmaster at Pageland, S. C.

The Sunday School Superintendent of New Hope was one of the younger men, Thomas Belk. The Sunday School, at this time, was a very live one. J. W. Richardson was the assistant superintendent. Stewards were as follows: John R. Belk, T. B. Cook and John Starnes.

The Third Quarterly Conference was held at Bethesda on July 28th. Revivals had been held at Rose Hill and Bethesda, as reported by the pastor in his report. The revival for New Hope was not mentioned, which no doubt was held in August. Only \$151.30 had been received from all churches on the salary. We looked eagerly for the report at the close of the year. We found that New Hope struggled out with its part. Bethesda fell behind twenty-five dollars, while Pageland lacked only nine. Total received from all churches was \$666.00.

Lee Sanders, of Pageland, was elected delegate over Robert Belk of New Hope. Mr. Sanders did not attend the Annual Conference, which was held at Burlington, N. C., but sent a written request to the president, asking for the return of Rev. Quick, which was the request of the Quarterly Conference.

1922—Rev. Quick was returned for his ninth year. This again pleased the people of New Hope. Rev. Quick had been pastor so long until many of the people did not know how other preachers preached.

We find again that there was some friction in the Pageland Church. Pastor Quick would hardly speak of it. This caused the support in that church to weaken that year.

On December 29th, 1921, the First Quarterly Conference was held at the Pageland Church. J. H. Baker, J. C. Cook, J. P. Aycoth and T. B. Cook were listed as the board of Stewards for New Hope, John R. Belk being named as an honorary member. Mr. Belk's health was not good, also becoming feeble, yet, since he had been so faithful so long in this office he was kept on the list. J. W. Richardson had just been elected as Sunday School superintendent at New Hope. Should I fail to mention the Sunday School Superintendent in the future chapters, it will be remembered that he served as superintendent until the Spring of 1930. After one year he was again elected to the same office and served many years thereafter.

A marriage of much interest to the church and community was that of Earl A. Cook and Jocia Melton, on the 25th of June, 1922. They made their home in the community with Mr. Cook's father, T. B. Cook.

Most all the year the pastor was not well and was unable to fill many of his appointments, although he gained some strength during the summer. It is believed by the writer that Rev. T. E. Martin assisted the pastor in a revival at New Hope that year. A

very successful revival was accomplished under Rev. Martin's preaching and many were added to the church. The spiritual church was greatly revived.

The Fourth Quarterly Conference was held at Rose Hill on October 23rd, 1922. Those present from New Hope were John R. Belk, J. W. Richardson, Earl A. Cook, and T. B. Cook.

There was an unusual problem in this conference. All the churches were far behind on pastor's salary. New Hope was thirty dollars behind while the other churches were even farther than that. It is not known how much more New Hope paid or how much more the other churches paid. Each church promised to try to pay out by the Annual Conference. Final reports show that the pastor only received \$584.00. A balance of \$166.00 was not paid. This had never happened before, there was certainly some reason for this, but it is not known. The salary was raised twenty-five dollars for the next year, this being added to New Hope's part. J. H. Baker, of New Hope, delegate to the Annual Conference, was instructed to ask for the return of Rev. Quick.

1923—With the tenth year before him, Pastor Quick returned to the Pageland Charge. This year started off very good. New Hope paid thirty dollars on salary at the first appointment of that year.

The First Quarterly Conference was held early that year, at the Pageland Church on November 26th, 1922. Since it was so very early there was little to report. Plans were made for the new year. J. W. Richardson was elected as a member of the Advisory and

Examining Committee. Stewards were elected for New Hope as follows: John R. Belk, J. C. Cook, J. H. Baker, T. B. Cook and J. P. Aycoth. New Hope was named as the place for the next Quarterly Conference.

There was much sickness in the community during the early part of the year. The pastor too, was very sick most of the year, and was unable to fill many appointments. As spring approached the Sunday School began to grow, while some time in July Rev. Allison Belk, son of J. Pat Belk, and the first preacher produced by New Hope church, conducted a revival at New Hope church. The revival was a wonderful success. Several were converted and joined the Church. Earl A. Cook, one of New Hope's young men, was deeply convicted in this revival, and was converted in August of the same year. Immediately after his conversion, as a surprise to everyone, he announced that he was called to preach, and at once took up the Christian work by studying his Bible and conducting prayer meetings in the church and community. He was the leader of a cottage home prayer meeting, and many were helped through it.

The Fourth Quarterly Conference was held at Rose Hill, Pageland, S. C., on October 24th, 1923, all the churches were represented and a great interest was taken. The following were present from New Hope: J. H. Baker, Oscar Baker, Leroy Helms, J. W. Richardson, Earl A. Cook and Nile Helms. At this conference Earl A. Cook asked for license to preach. This request was granted. The pastor's report was

read, and was a splendid report. The pastor was pleased by the progress made, both spiritually and financially. He had been promised \$725.00 and had received \$790.00. New Hope paid twenty-five dollars more than they had promised, the other churches also paid more than their assessment. J. W. Richardson, of New Hope, was the delegate. He was instructed to ask for the return of the same pastor.

Annual Conference was held in Thomasville, N. C., in Community Church, which had just been completed. Rev. Quick made arrangements for entertainment at this conference for Earl A. Cook, who, at this time, tried to enter the Conference Classes, but was refused for the lack of education. He was advised by the Conference Faculty to enter High School, and return four years later for entrance examination. J. W. Richardson, the delegate, Earl A. Cook and Luther Aycoth attended that conference together.

1924—Rev. Quick had just completed ten years of satisfactory service on the Pageland Charge. Now his health was failing him, and his service could not be as complete as before. Some suggested a change, while many others knew that this was no time to turn their backs upon a man who had given his all in service to his people. Realizing his service would be less, all were glad to have him begin the eleventh year as their pastor. He was promised more than \$800.00 for 1924.

The First Quarterly Conference was held at the Pageland Church on November 28th, 1923. New Hope was represented by J. H. Baker, Clyde Baker, Earl A.

Cook and T. B. Cook. Stewards for New Hope were elected as follows: J. H. Baker, T. B. Cook, J. C. Cook and Lee Aycoth.

During the entire winter the pastor was ill, and filled very few of any of his appointments that winter. Many of the appointments he did meet he was very weak and could hardly speak, and should have been in bed. It is believed that the responsibility of his work this year and his determination to go was greatly against his health.

On the second Sunday in January 1924, at New Hope Church, Earl A. Cook preached his first sermon. It was announced for several weeks. The Church was filled and all the standing room was taken. Mr. Cook kept himself busy in the spiritual work since his conversion by conducting prayer meetings and teaching a class of young men in his Sunday School, but this was a new experience for him, yet he did it as if he were accustomed to it.

Pastor Quick had been conducting most of his revivals, but this year he was not well, and he secured Rev. C. E. Phillips, of Lincolnton, N. C., to conduct the revival at New Hope in August. A wonderful and successful revival was remembered. An unusual number of conversions were witnessed and many united with the church.

Rev. Phillips was a very strong and impressive evangelist. The people of New Hope were deeply impressed by the evangelist and insisted that he come again the next year in a revival.

It now was a sad time for the people of the charge, especially New Hope, in the Fourth Quarterly Conference held at the Pageland Church on October 20, 1924. The pastor made his official report which was very sad as well as brief. He praised all the churches for their loyalty and support during the eleven years he had served as pastor. In his final report only \$715.00 was paid of the \$875.00 promised. New Hope was to pay \$325.00, and according to local reports that amount was paid by them. Yet Rev. Quick thanked the churches for the amount which was paid, as his services had not been near complete during the year. After reading his report he made a long talk. He realized his condition and knew the time had come when he had to give up the work he loved so well. He asked the people not to consider him as pastor for another year, he wished to rest a year and give his health a chance to improve. All the people knew this was best, but they were very sorry to give up this beloved pastor who meant so much to them. Many had not remembered any other pastor. J. E. Smith, of Pageland, S. C., was the delegate and was left uninstructed.

Earl A. Cook entered High School at Prospect at the beginning of the school term of 1924 and 1925, to comply with the request made by the Conference Faculty. The young preacher was having a hard struggle, his faithful wife was working in a knitting mill in Monroe, N. C., while he was in school.

At a prayer meeting at J. Bunday Aycoth's on December 3rd, 1924, Mrs. Aycoth suggested that the

people of New Hope help the young preacher by having a box supper, and let the proceeds go to him. This was left open for discussion on the next Sunday morning at church. J. W. Richardson, Sunday School Superintendent, put it before the church, and Sunday, December 21st, 1924, was set as the date on which a special offering would be made for Mr. Cook. This was done and an offering was received which amounted to ten dollars and fifty cents, for which the young preacher and his wife were very grateful.

Rev. Quick was not physically able to attend the Annual Conference which was held in Reidsville, N. C., but J.E. Smith, the delegate, insisted that he accompany him, which he did. During this session of the Annual Conference Rev. Quick was ordained an Elder in the Methodist Protestant Church. He had never finished the required work, although the members of the faculty understood his condition, and realized he deserved the degree, so it was granted. At his own request he was left without appointment the following year, 1925.

This officially ends the pastoral work of Rev. J. W. Quick, but as his Master would see fit he served another half year, which will be explained in the following chapter.

REV. M. IVEY CRUTCHFIELD—1925

The new pastor assigned to the Pageland Charge was Rev. M. Ivey Crutchfield. Rev. Crutchfield was a young man and a student in Westminster Theological Seminary, and could not resume his pastoral duties until his Seminary work was finished, which would be in June 1925. This left the Charge without a pastor for half the Conference year. A meeting was called by the officials of New Hope Church, in which a committee was appointed to consult Rev. Quick and ask him to serve New Hope until the new pastor came. The three churches met in a conference at the Pageland Church. Rev. Quick promised to serve the work as best he could, provided the President of the Conference made the appointment. This was done by correspondence by A. G. Dixon, the Conference President. The Charge promised and paid Pastor Quick \$400.00 for the half year service. He was not able to give complete service, and did not fill all appointments, but he was worthy of all he received. The young preacher, Earl A. Cook, filled a good many appointments for him at New Hope and Bethesda.

A wedding of much interest to the community was that of Luther Aycoth and Miss Lessie Penegar on April 5th, 1925. Also another on April 18th of

the same year was Floyd Cook and Miss Idell McGuirt. These young people were promising members of New Hope Church.

Pastor Crutchfield assumed his pastoral duties in June, which automatically released Rev. Quick. The new pastor was a young minister and inexperienced. Since the people had become accustomed to the style in which Rev. Quick had preached, it was hard for all to become accustomed to the new pastor and his new ways. Rev. Crutchfield was well educated and able to serve the work from this point of view. There were no educated people in New Hope Church at that time, and many could not understand, and considered their pastor higher socially than themselves, which made it hard for the young preacher.

The pastor moved to Pageland, S. C., and as he was not married, he roomed in the home of a member of the Pageland Church. Very soon after he came to his work he asked the people to help him get a car, which he very badly needed. He at once bought a high class used car, which, when paid for would require almost all his salary.

There is no report of any Quarterly Conference this year. It is not understood why these reports are missing, although we have a few local church reports we will use.

Rev. C. E. Phillips was secured by Pastor Crutchfield to conduct the revival at New Hope again that year. A great revival was witnessed. The Phillips Evangelistic Club, which was organized by Rev. Phillips a year before, had been in full action all the year

past. Earl A. Cook was Chairman of the Club, and had led it through a successful year. This had kept the spiritual condition of the church high. Therefore, a revival was not hard to start. There were fifty-six conversions, and a large number united with the church. Following are a few interesting facts as given in a report by the pastor, which appeared in the Methodist Protestant Herald of September 17th, 1925. He said in part:

"We have just closed two weeks of revival services on our work. On the fourth Sunday the pastor began a series of services at New Hope, where a good congregation greeted him twice on Sunday. Brother C. E. Phillips came on Monday and stayed until the close of the services the following Friday. Our congregations were good despite the fact that it was a busy season with many of our people. The church was crowded at night and many were compelled to sit in their automobiles or stand near the windows in order to hear the messages of Brother Phillips. We had fifty-six people to come forward renewing their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and confessing Him. It was a great meeting and the church was greatly revived. Fathers and mothers were won for the Master and many young people were brought into the service of Christ. The Phillips Evangelistic Club which was organized by Brother Phillips last year, played a great part in the success of our meeting. These good folks have been meeting twice each week and holding prayer services. On Sunday nights they meet at the church and each Wednesday night they meet in some home of the community and conduct their services themselves. They have revivals in these mid-week meetings. Sinners have asked for prayer in a number of them. People, if more communities would do as the New Hope people are doing we would have better revivals and it would not take half the time we devote to revival meetings to get the church to working. When the time

comes for a revival to begin and the preacher has to convert the church before the revival can begin. Our people at New Hope invited Brother Phillips back for a ten day meeting next year to be held under an arbor that we intend to build near the church. Already subscriptions to the amount of nearly \$200.00 have been received and a good amount of the material had been promised by members of the church. We expect to build an arbor that will seat thousands of people and hope to have a great time at New Hope beginning the third Sunday in July 1926.* * To show our appreciation of Brother Phillips' earnest efforts among us we gave him a purse of \$50.20 at the close of the meeting."

* * "Our meeting began at Rose Hill (Pageland) the fifth Sunday morning. Brother Quick, former pastor, preached at the eleven o'clock hour and the pastor preached in the evening. Brother Phillips came Monday and preached to a good congregation at night. * * Our services were not so well attended in the mornings but the church would not accommodate the people at the evening services. * * Sister Phillips and little Evan Phillips came and were with us in our meeting here. We were delighted to have them with us.

* * During our meeting here seventeen people made confession and were reconsecrated to the service of Christ. The church was greatly revived and much good was accomplished in the few days Rev. Phillips could be with us. * * We gave them a purse of \$71.25 for their services here."

As you will notice in the above report Rev. Phillips assisted Pastor Crutchfield in his revival at the Pageland Church also.

Rev. Phillips wove himself into the affections of the people of the entire charge, and just at this time very little attention was given to the pastor.

Soon the close of the Conference year was at hand. The pastor had received only three hundred dollars of

the six hundred he was promised. Earl A. Cook was elected delegate and was instructed by the Fourth Quarterly Conference to ask for Rev. C. E. Phillips as pastor. A previous conference had been held with Rev. Phillips, and he promised to serve as pastor if New Hope would raise four hundred dollars for him that he may settle some accounts before he moved to the work. This amount was raised by New Hope Church, and a certified check for the amount was carried to the Conference by Earl A. Cook, the delegate, which was to be given to Rev. Phillips if he was assigned to the Pageland Charge, yet Pastor Crutchfield, according to last reports, only received \$360.00 of his salary. This was not treating the young pastor right, although it is history.

Rev. Phillips encouraged the people to build a large arbor on the New Hope church grounds. During his evangelistic work there in 1925 the plans were made, and several hundred dollars raised. A committee was appointed to complete the plans and start the work early in 1926. J. P. Aycoth was chairman of this committee.

REV. C. E. PHILLIPS— 1926-1929

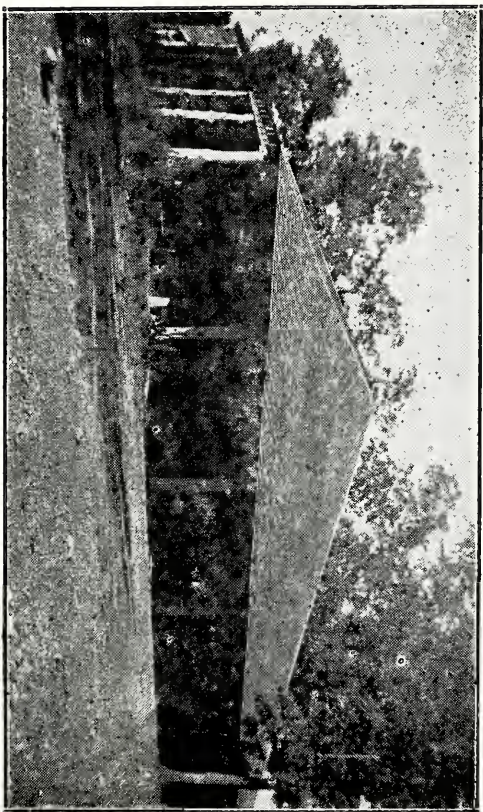
A new pastor was assigned to the Pageland Charge for the Conference year 1926, Rev. C. E. Phillips. As soon as he was assigned pastor the delegate gave to him the four hundred dollar check from New Hope Church.

Rev. Phillips came to the Pageland Charge from Lincolnton, N. C. Immediately after conference New Hope took the responsibility to move the pastor. A parsonage was rented in Monroe, N. C. Robert Cook and Earl A. Cook moved the new pastor.

These were red letter days for New Hope, as well as for the entire charge.

The First Quarterly Conference was held at Rose Hill church on December 19th, 1925. Earl A. Cook was elected as a new member of the advisory committee. The following were elected as stewards for New Hope church: Earl A. Cook, Lee Aycoth, J. C. Cook, T. B. Cook and G. R. Montgomery.

Pastor's salary was fixed at \$1850.00. Seven hundred and fifty dollars of that amount was for New Hope and seventy dollars on conference claims. The other two churches were assessed in proportion. This was an unusually heavy budget, but each church believed in themselves and it was done.



THE NEW HOPE ARBOR

ERECTED 1926.

100

Early in the conference year Pastor Phillips conducted a ten-day revival in the Union County Court House in Monroe, N. C., with a very good interest and fair attendance.

On April 16th, 1926, the beloved former pastor, J. W. Quick, passed to his reward. This greatly shocked the people of all the churches, despite the fact that his death had been expected for some time. The funeral was conducted by Rev. Phillips and he was laid to rest in the Pageland cemetery.

Early in the spring the building and finance committee of the New Hope Arbor got busy. Almost everyone was interested and the work soon began and a large arbor was built at a cost of approximately one thousand dollars besides much of the lumber material which was donated. It was finished in time for the revival to begin on the fourth Sunday in July. This was a long expected revival and was widely advertised. People attended from all parts of the state.

The Second Quarterly Conference was supposed to have been held at Bethesda, while we have no record of the transactions. The Third Quarterly Conference was held at the Pageland Church on September 1st, 1926. All three churches were well represented, and much interest was shown. There were a large number from New Hope but only two officials, Earl A. Cook and J. C. Cook. All Sunday Schools reported good work. New Hope reported a large attendance.

Lucas Roscoe, of Bethesda, asked for license to preach. He was examined by the proper committee and the request was granted.

J. C. Cook, of New Hope, was elected delegate to the Annual Conference.

A thing of interest at New Hope was the fact that the singing was so much better. A small choir had developed into a very large one, and a good quartet was organized. G. R. Montgomery and Earl A. Cook were promoting this part of the work. Sam Aycoth was organist. Music lovers from adjoining communities came to enjoy the music, many taking part in the singing. Then too, the strong evangelistic sermons of Pastor Phillips brought many people from all parts of the country.

Many poundings for the pastor were conducted during the year, not only the members of New Hope took a part in these poundings, but almost everyone in the community, and many in the adjoining communities.

The Fourth Quarterly Conference was conducted at the Pageland Church on October 27th, 1926. For some reason three of the four conferences this year were held at the Pageland Church. None had been held at New Hope this year. New Hope was well represented at this conference, but only the following officials were present: T. B. Cook, Lee Aycoth, J. C. Cook, Earl A. Cook, G. R. Montgomery and J. W. Richardson. Pastor's report was read and was very interesting. The financial report was given. Bethesda had paid pastor's salary in full, Rose Hill had paid all but a few dollars, but New Hope, after doing all they could, still owed \$241.00. The officials guaranteed the amount if the pastor would mark them paid.

They raised the amount in a few weeks after Conference. This was a hard year for New Hope. Their part of the pastor's salary was more than double than of the years before. Besides they raised almost one thousand dollars to build the arbor, then many had helped Rev. and Mrs. Quick in the early part of the year. In spite of all this, with a few extra weeks after Conference, New Hope came out over the top.

The pastor's salary was fixed at \$1650.00, and the churches were to pay one-half of the pastor's house rent. J. C. Cook was delegate to the Annual Conference, and was instructed to ask for the return of Pastor Phillips.

In passing we notice a few incidents of which a record was kept. I will mention them briefly:

"Wednesday evening, October 20th, 1926, Rev. Phillips preached at the prayer meeting hour."

"Tuesday evening, October 26th, 1926, prayer meeting was held at the church and was conducted by Parley Cook, reading for a lesson Romans 12. Stewards meeting was held after the prayer meeting hour."

"Sunday evening October 31st, 1926, the pastor preached at the prayer meeting hour."

"Wednesday evening, November 3rd, 1926, the pastor preached at the prayer meeting hour. There were about sixty present. He also preached the next Sunday evening, November 7th, at the Prayer meeting hour."

"Wednesday evening, November 10th, 1926, prayer meeting was not held because of preaching service in the late afternoon."

"Wednesday evening, November 17th, 1926, prayer meet-

ing was held at the church, and was conducted by Mrs. Fay Aycoth. About forty were present."

"There were no services on Sunday evening, November 21st, 1926, because of bad weather, and on the Wednesday evening following there was no prayer meeting because of trouble in the community." (It is not known what the trouble was.)

"Sunday evening November 28th, 1926, prayer meeting was held at the home of G. R. Montgomery, and was conducted by Mrs. Stafford Belk. Lesson read was the 37th Psalm. About forty were present."

"Wednesday evening, December 1st, 1926, prayer meeting was held at the home of Rev. Earl A. Cook, and was conducted by Mrs. Molly Helms, by reading the 15th chapter of John. About thirty-five were present."

1927—At the Annual Conference the Boundary Committee was requested to take Bethesda off the Pageland Charge, which they did, and made a station of Bethesda, and was served by the Rockingham pastor. This left only two church on the Pageland Charge, New Hope and Rose Hill.

Pastor Phillips returned to the work for the second year. He moved from the East side of Monroe to the West side, in a few hundred yards of the Monroe school.

Now that Bethesda was taken off the Charge the pastor asked to engage in other work that he may supplement his salary. The permission was granted by both the conference and the churches. He secured an insurance position at which he was very successful. These two positions kept the pastor very busy, although he did both well for a while.

At this time Earl A. Cook was deeply interested in his studies, which were required by the Conference Faculty. Rev. Phillips became very interested in the young preacher who, under his many handicaps, was struggling to meet the requirements of the conference. Despite the duties of both positions of the pastor, he agreed to give the young preacher two nights out of each week for instructions and study. This work was kept up regularly for almost two years, during which time every viewpoint of the Bible and Methodist Doctrine was drilled into the understanding of the young preacher. The Bible was the main subject studied in connection with the subjects required in the courses of study. This was very helpful to Rev.. Cook, as it helped him pass his exaxminations very satisfactory to the Conference.

The Second Quarterly Conference was held at New Hope on May 18th, 1927. The regular business of the Conference was transacter. Henry Mirze, of Pageland, S. C., and J. W. Richardson were named as candidates for delegate to the Annual Conference.

Death visited New Hope community on May 24th, 1927, and took one of the most dependable and efficient members of the church, J. P. Aycoth. Mr. Aycoth had taken an important part in the development of New Hope Church and the community. The church felt this loss very keenly.

On August 10th, 1927, the Third Quarterly Conference was held at the Pageland Church. J. W. Richardson and Earl A. Cook represented New Hope Church. Mr. Richardson made the Sunday School re-

port, which was good, with average attendance about ninety. Earl A. Cook, Chairman of the board of stewards of New Hope, reported about \$375.00 paid on pastor's salary. Rose Hill reported almost seven hundred dollars paid on pastor's salary. This showed up New Hope, but they were always there in the end. The license of Rev. Earl A. Cook was renewed for another year. J. H. Mirze was elected as delegate to the Annual Conference.

The close of this conference year was a very busy one for New Hope. Almost half of the pastor's salary was to be raised. Stewards got busy, and when the year closed New Hope had paid all claims and presented to their pastor a nice overcoat and an unusual pounding of groceries.

The Fourth Quarterly Conference was held at Rose Hill, of Pageland, S. C., on October 27th, 1927. Pastor's report was made. All salary paid by both churches, besides the overcoat presented by New Hope, the people of the Pageland Church presented to him a nice suit of clothes, also a large amount of groceries.

Rev. Earl A. Cook made a report of his local work, as a local preacher, which showed progressiveness in his work and studies.

The delegate, J. H. Marze, was instructed to ask for the return of Rev. Phillips as pastor.

Pastor's salary was again set at \$1650.00 and one-half the pastor's house rent.

1928—Rev Phillips returned to the Pageland Charge to start his third year, which was a very hard

one for him. The "new" was wearing off, and the duties of his insurance work seemed to increase, as well as his pastoral duties. Many times Rev. Phillips became worried and perplexed, but even his close friends would hardly notice it. Only that smile and pleasant approach presented itself, not even his companion, who was so devoted to him and his work, knew nothing of many of his problems.

For unknown reasons there was only one Quarterly Conference report available of this year. A few local church actions found by the author which will be of interest.

Some time during the pastorate of Rev. Phillips Lee Cook and family, D. C. Montgomery, Rayburn Moser and others joined New Hope Church. They came from Sandy Ridge Baptist Church.

Early in the year, February 11th, 1928, another marriage of interest was that of Crowell Cook and Miss Edna McGuirt, a sister of Mrs. Floyd Cook. Mrs. Cook was a member of the Baptist church at the time of her marriage, but later united with New Hope Church and became an efficient member and teacher.

During the summer the Sunday School grew to a church full. The prayer meetings were well attended and were inspiring.

Death again came and took three very faithful members. The first was Mrs. Jessie Yarbrough, wife of Mack Yarbrough, on September 8th, 1928. Mrs. Yarbrough was the elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John R. Belk. She had been a very faithful member of New Hope Church since childhood.

On September 29th, 1928, Mrs. Brownie Helms Presley passed to her reward. Mrs. Presley was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Helms, and a granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. John R. Belk. Mrs. Presley was very young, just reaching the bloom of life, and her passing was a great shock to her friends and loved ones.

On October 22nd, 1928, T. P. Ross left this world to be with God. Mr. Ross had been a faithful member of New Hope Church for twenty-five years. He had not lived in the community since 1917 or 1918, but he was always interested in New Hope Church and the promotion of its programs. He lived in Monroe at the time of his death. These three members sleep in New Hope cemetery.

The church felt most keenly the passing of Mr. Ross and Mr. Aycoth, who had been such faithful officials in the church. Then, too, John R. Belk, one of the faithful pioneers of New Hope Church, was now getting feeble, and was hardly able to discharge his official duties, yet he always attended services when at all possible. He was released from the responsibility of church trustee, an office he served as chairman since the organization of the church in 1889. He was succeeded by Robert Belk, son of W. C. Belk. W. C. Belk, known as Uncle Lum, was also feeble and unable to carry on his official work in the church, but these old soldiers of the Cross were held in high esteem by the entire church, and were asked for advice by their successors when they faced trying problems in their work.

The Fourth Quarterly Conference was held at New Hope on October 29th, 1928. In the absence of the secretary, Earl A. Cook was elected as secretary pro tem.

An interesting report was made by Superintendent J. W. Richardson of New Hope Sunday School, which at that time had the best attendance and more interest than it had ever had before in the nine years he had served as its leader.

The pastor reported that New Hope was yet some behind on salary. The officials assured the pastor that this amount would be raised by Annual Conference. This was done.

Rev. Earl A. Cook, a local preacher, gave his report which showed the marks of progress in his work. He assured the Conference of his determination to go on in spite of many things that were stumbling blocks. He expected to ask the Conference of 1928 for an entrance examination.

There was some discussion when the time came to fix the pastor's salary for the next year. Money was not so very easy to get any more, and both churches did not feel that they could pay the large salary the next year. It was suggested that New Hope and Rose Hill pay six hundred dollars each, and since Bethesda wanted back on the Pageland Charge, that they be accepted, and they pay three hundred dollars, and all churches pay one hundred dollars on pastor's house rent, which would make a total of sixteen hundred dollars. This was agreed upon and passed.

The delegate, Earl A. Cook, was instructed to ask for the return of the same pastor.

Through the assistance of Earl A. Cook, New Hope church presented to their pastor a nice suit of clothes just before Conference.

1929—Pastor Phillips was assigned to the Pageland Charge for his fourth year, which pleased the larger part of the Charge. Bethesda Church was attached back to the Pageland Charge, which pleased the people of Bethesda very much. This helped the Charge, as the large salary the two churches had been paying was now too much for them to carry.

Rev. Earl A. Cook made application for entrance into the Conference in the 1928 session, which was held in Winston-Salem, N. C. He was examined by the proper committee and was admitted to the Conference Classes, for three more years of study, this time under the Conference Faculty.

Some time during the year 1918, Pastor Phillips moved out of the city of Monroe to avoid expensive house rent, of which he was entirely justifiable. He moved to the small station known as Bakers, N. C., five miles from Monroe on the Charlotte and Monroe highway.

G. R. Montgomery, the choir leader, had some time before moved out of the community to Monroe, and Joe Ross was elected as his successor. His wife, Mrs. Cora Ross, was elected organist. Mr. Ross was well advanced in music. He took a great interest in this part of the work which soon advanced to an outstanding feature of the church. The choir very soon

began to receive invitations to sing in neighboring churches, which they often accepted.

Soon after Christmas Pastor Phillips became ill and remained so for several weeks. He partly recovered and filled a few appointments. A few weeks later he became ill again. The doctor stated that he was suffering from a nervous break-down. He lingered several weeks without improving, then he decided to go, with his family, to his father's home in Bessemer City, N. C. He remained there for weeks, and while he was there, of course, the Pageland Charge was without a pastor. While Pastor Phillips was at his father's there was a misunderstanding between him and the Methodist Protestant pastor there, Rev. M. C. Henderson. The resentment between them brought the president of the conference, S. W. Taylor, to counsel with them. Before the president came to Bessemer City, rumors came to him that Rev. Phillips had become involved in some insurance trouble in Monroe, N. C. This had already been investigated by President Taylor. It is not known what was found by him, but on May 21st, 1929, President Taylor called a conference of the Pageland Charge, which was held at New Hope Church. The people were informed by President Taylor that Rev. Phillips was no longer pastor of the charge, his resignation having been accepted, and he was released of any duties as pastor. This was a great surprise to the entire charge, although many were growing weary, and wanted a pastor, while others did not care. Earl A. Cook had served New Hope some in the absence

of the pastor. Without any discussion, President Taylor offered Rev. T. Glenn Madison, who would be home from Westminster Theological Seminary in a few days, as pastor for the remainder of the conference year. This offer was accepted by the charge, and in a few weeks Rev. Madison was in his new field.

Rev. Phillips was now an ex-pastor. He remained at his father's home in Bessemer City, N. C., the remainder of the year.

On January 17th, 1929, death claimed another member of New Hope Church, Mrs. Eliza Starnes, the wife of John Starnes. Mrs. Starnes was never strong, but was a faithful soul in all she was able to do, and all who knew her loved her.

Rev. T. Glenn Madison—Rev. Madison was a clean cut young man, and on the merits of his appearance the whole charge received him with pleasure. It was a hard task for the young preacher to take up the work as it was. The work had been without the service of a pastor for several months, many were down-hearted and disappointed over the loss of Rev. Phillips. Rev. Madison realized the conditions, and knew exactly how to master the situation.

Rev. Madison called a Quarterly Conference as soon as possible after he came to the work. There it was decided the amount to be paid the pastor. It is not known what that amount was but supposing it to be about five hundred dollars. There is no record showing the amount Pastor Madison or Pastor Phill-

ips received that year. The report of the Annual Conference shows that eleven hundred dollars was paid to both pastors.

Since Pastor Madison had to return to school at Westminster, Maryland, before the close of the conference year, the last Quarterly Conference was held early, on August 30th, 1929. H. B. Sowell, of Pageland, S. C., was elected delegate to the Annual Conference. He was left uninstructed.

Rev. Madison returned to school on September 24, therefore, the charge was without a pastor the remainder of the conference year.

REV. T. E. MARTIN—1930

This year was another turning point in the history of New Hope Church. It seemed that the church could only rise to a certain height, then something would happen which would keep it from going higher.

This is a chapter I would rather not write, and wist it was not true, but since something must be said I shall say it briefly. It is hoped that the recording of these brief facts that the generations to come may profit by them. Those in this generation who had a part in these facts remember many things not recorded here. They are not recorded in hopes that they may be forgotten.

After the session of the 1929 Conference which was held in Calvary Church, Greensboro, N. C., Rev. C. E. Phillips was no longer a minister in the Methodist Protestant Church. He later joined the Baptist Church, and Rev. Madison was assigned to the First Church, Thomasville, N. C.

P. E. Bingham was the new pastor assigned to the Pageland Charge. Rev. Bingham was a young man and in school at Westminster Theological Seminary, and would not finish school until June, at which time he expected to come to the Pageland Charge.

The people of New Hope became worried because they had been left without a pastor for half

the year. The officials counseled together. Someone suggested Rev. T. E. Martin, of Pickens, S. C., a former Methodist Protestant preacher, who had left the Conference in 1922. The officials of New Hope wrote him and asked if he would serve the Pageland Charge. This was very agreeable to Rev. Martin, so he at once came to Monroe, N. C., to see the officials of New Hope Church. He insisted that he move to the work. Some thought it best to wait a while, but he continued to insist, so he moved to Monroe, N. C., early in the year, and preached only at New Hope Church. The other churches of the Charge knew nothing of Rev. Martin being on the work.

The officials of New Hope were doing as they were instructed by Rev. Martin. They wrote S. W. Taylor, President of the Conference, and insisted that Rev. Bingham be released from his appointment of the Pageland Charge, after which, on February 26th, 1930, Rev. Bingham was released. Now a request was made, by New Hope Church alone, that Rev. T. E. Martin be assigned to the Charge, which was at first refused.

New Hope had some difficulty getting Rose Hill, of Pageland, S. C., to accept Rev. Martin as their choice of a spiritual leader. New Hope worked faithfully until they finally resorted to New Hope's plans.

Bethesda, the smallest of the three churches asked the president of the Conference to assign Earl Cook, a local preacher of New Hope Church, to serve them until pastor supply was made for the Charge.

The request was granted and Earl Cook was assigned as pastor of Bethesda Church on February 20th, 1930.

The people of New Hope kept working as Rev. Martin gave them orders. President Taylor did not know that Rev. Martin was already on the work. This was kept from him.

Some time in March the president set a date on which he would conduct a conference with the people, thinking he may reconcile them without having to appoint Rev. Martin as pastor. The Conference was held at the Pageland Church. Many of the New Hope people attended. Rev. Martin also attended but he was not seen by the president, as he remained on the outside in the darkness of the night. President Taylor gave some reasons why he did not want to assign Rev. Martin to the Charge. He stated that he was once in the Conference but left in 1922, that he did not comply with the rules of the Conference Faculty while there, and for that reason was never ordained. He offered other reasons as well as other preachers. Rose Hill was easy any way, but New Hope was set, they would accept no other offers, and still contended for Rev. Martin. At last President Taylor agreed if Rev. Martin would go before the Conference Faculty, and they approved him, he would then assign him to the Charge. Arrangements were made and a date set in April for Rev. Martin to meet the Faculty in Greensboro, N. C.

While in conference with the Faculty Rev. Martin tried to produce proof that he had been ordained in the Baptist Church since he had left the Methodist

Protestant Church. He could not do this. After a brief examination the Faculty admitted him to the Conference Classes, beginning with the first year. Then on April 17th, 1930, he was assigned as pastor of the Pageland Charge. This automatically released Rev. Cook from Bethesda. He came to the pastor and offered his resignation, but the pastor would not accept it. Rev. Martin stated that he did not have a car, therefore if he served Bethesda he would have to hire Rev. Cook to take him, and there was no use of them both going. He insisted that Rev. Cook continue his work there, as it was a small church, and there was nothing but experience to be got there, and since he was a young preacher and needed the experience, just go and get it. They were only promising one hundred dollars, and it would take that amount to pay expenses, as it was fifty-five miles from Monroe, N. C. Rev. Cook would not accept this assignment unless the president of the conference passed on it. This was done early in May at a Pastor's Federation meeting held in the First M. P. Church in Concord, N. C., which the two preachers attended.

No minutes of any Quarterly Conference of that year is available, but we have records kept by the local church.

Everything went along smoothly for about a month, after which Rev. Martin became jealous of Earl Cook, the local preacher on the Charge.

T. B. Cook, of New Hope, and Henry Marze, of Pageland, S. C., were candidates for delegate to the Annual Conference. It was generally believed that

T. B. Cook would be elected, as the Pageland candidate was elected the year before. Something impressed Rev. Martin so that he believed if Mr. Cook were elected he would bring back his son, Earl Cook, as pastor, and he would be left out. The people generally, at all the churches spoke well of the young preacher, but New Hope or the Pageland Charge had no thought of calling Rev. Cook as pastor, although Bethesda was well pleased with the work he was doing there, and expressed a desire of keeping him. Rev. Martin at once became worried and very much down hearted over his imaginations, as no thought of such things had ever entered the mind of anyone else. He entertained the idea until he really believed it to be true, so much so that he began to campaign for Mr. Marze, the Pageland candidate for delegate. He told some that he thought would keep it, what he thought would be done. These things soon got to Earl Cook and his father, T. B. Cook. Mr. Cook at all times had been a special friend to Rev. Martin, so when he heard of the accusations he went to the pastor and told him to forget such ideas, that he had no thought of bringing his son back as pastor, and if the charge wanted Earl, they surely would not ask his father to bring him back. Then too, Earl Cook went to him and told him not to worry, as he would not serve his home church in his early ministry if the people wanted him. This did very little good, for Rev. Martin did not believe this for some reason, and continued his campaign work. He soon began to work bitterly against anyone who showed any special friendship to Earl

Cook or his father. This soon developed into a general tear-up in the church. Rev. Martin notified Joe Ross, the choir leader, and his wife, the organist, that they were no longer in office. He elected or appointed others to take their places. He asked J. W. Richardson, Sunday School Superintendent, to resign, which he did, and Noble Helms, a young man, was elected in his place. Mr. Richardson had served as Superintendent for ten years, and those who were interested in the church and Sunday School tried to keep him in the office, but he resigned anyway.

After those things were accomplished the Rev. Martin tried to get J. C. Cook to write President Taylor and ask him to take the appointment of pastor at Bethesda from Rev. Cook. But Mr. Cook would not do this. Rev. Cook did not know this until the year was almost finished.

Some time before Conference Rev. Martin confessed that he was wrong and had said too much. He promised to apologize to the church from the pulpit, but the time he promised to make the apology he had changed his mind and made things worst.

Things like this went on throughout the year, and at the end, the church was divided as well as the churches of the Charge. Mr. Marze, of Pageland, was elected as delegate by having two ballots at New Hope.

It is not known how much salary was promised Rev. Martin, neither is it known how much he received. The Conference Minutes of 1930 show that seven hundred dollars was promised, this same report

gives the amount of six hundred and thirty-five dollars were received, but it is not known whether this was the amount Rev. Martin received or the amount received by him and Rev. Cook, as Mr. Cook served one of the churches, and since he was an associate pastor his report had to be made to the pastor, and it is not known if Rev. Martin combined the reports which he was supposed to have done. Rev. Cook received \$202.40 from Bethesda. It is believed that this amount was not added to the report, and the amount given in his report was the amount received by Rev. Martin from New Hope and Rose Hill.

The Fourth Quarterly Conference was held at the Pageland Church, the date is not known. The pastor made only a verbal report. Rev. Earl Cook made his report which is given here in part:

"Since this is my first pastoral report I will make it brief and to the point."

"I have served as associate pastor since February 20th, 1930, and the church which I have been serving has been progressing steadily since the above date. Our revival was a wonderful success with twenty-five professions, with several additions to the church. I also conducted a successful revival at Beulah Church on the Mecklenburg Charge. The finances have been very pleasant during the year. There was no fixed salary, as I only asked the church to pay expenses, or as they felt led by the Spirit. An amount of \$202.40 was received in cash, and a vast amount of foodstuff such as these people have at home."

" * * Ten dollars have been raised at Bethesda on the conference claims."
EARL A. COOK."

This ten dollars raised at Bethesda was the only money raised on the Charge for the Conference Claims.

There were no instructions given to the delegate in the Quarterly Conference, but it was believed that Rev. Martin had won the confidence of the delegate, therefore, New Hope was just as much afraid that Rev. Martin was coming back to the work as they had been afraid they would lose him a few months before. New Hope had learned a lesson, and they were willing to admit it even at the great cost.

Rev. Martin was in great hopes of coming back, and he believed he would be appointed as pastor again.

The Annual Conference was held in Albemarle, N. C., in November 1930. Rev. Martin attended the Conference Classes and passed on several subjects.

When the appointments were read many were surprised, so was Rev. Martin, for he was left without an appointment. From the results of the division in New Hope Church and the Charge, the Pageland Charge was dissolved, and was no more. New Hope was placed on the Mecklenburg Charge, the Pageland Church was placed on the Midland Charge, and Bethesda was made a station and was to be supplied by the Rockingham pastor.

Rev. Martin did not remain very long in the New Hope community after Conference. He moved to South Carolina, where he tried to get back in the Baptist church. It is not known whether or not he succeeded.

REV. Q. L. JOYNER, 1931

REV. J. L. LOVE—1932

Pageland Charge was now no longer, and its passing was no fault of anyone of the Charge. It was an idea of the Boundary Committee. In the dissolving New Hope was placed on the Mecklenburg Charge, which had been growing weak for several years, and New Hope was received gladly. The Charge had now five churches.

Rev. Q. L. Joyner was pastor, who had served the Mecklenburg Charge the year before this, 1930. The pastor also received New Hope gladly, although it meant more work for him.

New Hope was in an uproar, and in a very bad spiritual condition. Many had lost interest in the church work, which made it very hard for the pastor, who did his best to get the church back to normal again.

The parsonage of the Charge was at Stallings, near Matthews, N. C., and about eighteen or twenty miles from New Hope Church. The pastor spent much time in the community among his people, which helped many to forget their former church troubles.

Finances came very slow from all the churches. They were slow from New Hope because of the division there, but it is not known what the trouble was

with the other churches. Earl A. Cook was Chairman of the Board of Stewards of New Hope, but only a very few obligated themselves to help with the finances.

The official work of the Charge was in the hands of the Mecklenburg officials, and no official reports of the Quarterly Conferences were available. Several officials of New Hope Church were taking little or no interest in the work that year. The Stewards were: Earl A. Cook, Lee Aycoth, Robert Cook and Tom Belk. Noble Helms was Sunday School Superintendent. John W. Richardson succeeded him in the latter part of the year. Mr. Richardson had served more than ten years in this office, now elected back for life.

Earl A. Cook did not take work in the Conference that year, as he was taking some educational work which he needed very badly. He assisted the pastor in a revival at Beulah Church in August. It is not remembered who assisted Pastor Joyner in the revival at New Hope.

Following is a report in part submitted by Earl A. Cook to the Third Quarterly Conference held at New Hope some time in August 1931:

" * * My heart has been very deeply in the work I have tried to do for the Master. I feel closer to Him than ever before.

"In my weak way I have preached twenty-five times, of which five were in homes. I have also labored in the Sunday School when I was not preaching elsewhere. The adult class of which I have been teacher for several years is growing both in spirit and in size.

"If our memory serves us right I have filled two regular appointments for our pastor, and will assist him in a revival

at Beulah in the next few days, all of which has been and will be a pleasure. I have visited many homes in the community during sicknesses.

"May we together thank our Heavenly Father for what we have tried to accomplish, as we should realize without His help and guidance all would be a failure."

"EARL A. COOK."

The addition of New Hope Church to the Charge brought the promise of \$1,150.00 for pastor's salary, but only \$609.00 was paid. All the churches of the Charge failed to pay the amount they had promised. New Hope lacked about fifty dollars paying their part. However, times were considered hard, and the depression was making its advent into the world again, so only \$800.00 was promised as pastor's salary for the next year. Only \$609.00 was paid to Pastor Joyner that year.

The Fourth Quarterly Conference was held at Stallings, the date is not known. A. B. Garmon, of Antioch Church, was the delegate to the Annual Conference, and was left uninstructed. In that Conference it was reported that some work was needed to be done on the parsonage, and was discussed at that meeting. Plans were made which were carried out the next Conference Year.

1932—Rev. J. L. Love—The Annual Conference was held in High Point, N. C. Rev. Q. L. Joyner was assigned to the Richland Charge and Rev. J. Lloyd Love was assigned to the Mecklenburg Charge. Rev. Love was a young man, but was very zealous and interested in the work.

New Hope was weak yet, but had improved some, and time was helping many things to be forgotten.

This church was yet considered the strongest church of the Charge, and was paying the largest amount on Pastor's salary.

A marriage of interest to the community was that of Noble Helms and Miss Chloe Melton, on February 6th, 1932. Mrs. Helms is a sister of Mrs. Earl A. Cook.

Since the writer left the community at the beginning of that Conference Year, to take his place in the Conference work, very little of the work, in detail, can be given. Rev. Cook was assigned to Democrat Charge in Western North Carolina. He came back during the summer and assisted the pastor in a revival at Beulah, which was the third consecutive revival Rev. Cook had conducted at that Church.

The revival at New Hope Church was conducted in August, by Rev. Fred R. Love, a cousin to the pastor. The revival was a success, many professions were made and a good number added to the Church.

New Hope progressed some that year, but not in a financial way. All the churches were far behind all year on pastor's salary, and this record was not saying good things for the charge. The Sunday School at New Hope had again developed into a very interesting one. There was also a very alive Christian Endeavor Society in the Church, also a Sunday evening prayer meeting.

Mrs. Ellis Aycoth was the Church Reporter, an office she had filled several years. Following I will quote parts of several reports of Mrs. Aycoth to the Methodist Protestant Herald of 1932:

"* * * We have a good pastor this year. He brings to us a good message each time he preaches. Regular appointments are the third Sunday at 11 a. m., and the first Sunday at 7:30 P. M. Sunday School every Sunday. Prayer meeting Sunday evenings when there is not preaching service; prayer meeting every Wednesday evening and conducted in the home of someone. Next Wednesday evening, (April 1932), prayer meeting will be conducted at Mr. and Mrs. MEMP Belk's. Mrs. Belk is a mighty faithful worker in her church * * *."

"* * * (May 5, 1932). Rev. Love's subject last Sunday was: "Where We Live and Where Our Treasures Are." * * * We are still enjoying the mid-week prayer meetings. I am teacher of a class of small boys and girls of 6 to 13 years old. We also meet on Sunday afternoons, when we enjoy together a prayer meeting. These little folks enjoy their prayer meeting, they take active parts in all parts of the service."

(June 6, 1932) "Last Sunday night a wonderful program was rendered at our church by the Christian Endeavor Society from Beulah. The program was conducted by Rev. Clifford Craig, a local preacher of Beulah Church. * * * Mr. Howard Lathan, Professor of Prospect High School, taught the adult class in our Sunday School last Sunday. Professor Lathan made a wonderful talk. * * Rev. Love used for his subject Sunday: 'Hell, That Awful Place'."

"MRS. FAYE AYCOTH, Reporter."

The Conference year closed with all churches behind on pastor's salary. It is not known how much New Hope paid, but the entire charge only paid \$569. A balance of \$204.00 was left unpaid.

Pastor's salary was fixed at \$800.00, and T. J. Atkins, of Zore Church, was elected delegate, and was left uninstructed.

REV. M. C. HENDERSON—1933-1934

REV. P. E. BINGHAM—1935

REV. J. ROBERT SHORT—1936

This chapter, which is the last one, will be very brief. The author left the church and community in 1932 to take up his pastoral work in the Conference. No local records were kept, and the Circuit records are not available, but a few outstanding incidents will be recorded.

At the Annual Conference held in Burlington, N. C., Rev. Love and Rev. M. C. Henderson, who was pastor of Anderson Charge, exchanged places. Rev. Love was assigned to Anderson and Rev. M. C. Henderson was the new pastor for New Hope and Mecklenburg Charge.

Rev. Henderson was no stranger to many of the people of New Hope Church, and his coming was very acceptable. He was not only liked by New Hope, but the entire Charge liked him. Therefore, his work was satisfactory and successful, and New Hope Church prospered under his pastorate.

In January, 1933, Cam Cook, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Cook, and Miss Avis Morris, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Morris, were united in marriage. These two young people were members of New Hope Church since early life, and are now efficient and dependable members.

Rev. Henderson conducted his own revival at New Hope which was a success, several united with the church. Clarence Griffin, of Monroe, conducted the singing during the revival. The revival was conducted under the large arbor, and large crowds attended each service. A piano was bought during the year to replace the organ which had been used many years.

The year was a perfect one for New Hope, the first year they had paid everything since they had become a part of Mecklenburg Charge. Eight hundred dollars was promised by the entire Charge, but annual reports show that twenty-eight dollars were not paid. It is not known which Church or churches failed to pay their assessment, although, it is known that New Hope paid all it was assessed.

Eight hundred dollars was promised on pastor's salary for the next year, and J. C. Cook of New Hope Church was elected delegate to the Annual Conference, and was instructed to ask for the return of the same pastor.

1934—Another church was added to the Mecklenburg Charge at the Conference passed, Rose Hill Church of Pageland, S. C. This church was taken from the Midland Charge, and was once the main church of the old Pageland Charge. It was no longer what it had one time been, it was now a very weak church. This church was weakened when the Pageland Charge was dissolved.

The church continued to strengthen and a good year was had at New Hope. It is not known, but believed that Pastor Henderson conducted his own re-

vival at New Hope again. Earl A. Cook was then stationed at Roberta, who visited his father, T. B. Cook, and conducted one service during the revival.

There were several deaths that year which brought sorrow to the entire church. The first was C. M. Belk, known as "Uncle Mimp," on August 31, and on the next day, September 1st, his wife, Mrs. Melvie, departed to be with him and God. These were splendid old people, and were devoted to their church and children. They were laid to rest in the same grave in New Hope Cemetery. The third was J. Pat Belk, on November 12th. He was the father of Rev. Allison Belk. The Fourth was the tragic death of Charlie Belk on October 14th, the son of Mr. and Mrs. John R. Belk. He was found dead on the road where he had been hit by a car in the night. His death was a great shock to his friends and loved ones. His body rests in New Hope Cemetery.

This was another year that New Hope paid everything, and overpaid their part of pastor's salary. All the other churches came out, and Rev. Henderson received eighteen dollars more than he was promised.

In the Fourth Quarterly Conference T. B. Cook was authorized to attend the Annual Conference with Rev. Henderson, as the official delegate was Henry Marze, from the Pageland Church, and this church was expected to be transferred to the Rockingham Charge. The delegate was instructed to ask for the return of Pastor Henderson. For some reason this request was not granted by the Stationing Committee, he was assigned to Richland Charge near Ashboro, N. C.

Pastor's salary was fixed at eight hundred dollars.

Rev. P. E. Bingham 1935—A new pastor, Rev. P. E. Bingham, was assigned to the Mecklenburg Charge. Rev. Bingham was an educated young man, and was well prepared for the work. He came to Mecklenburg Charge from Creswell Charge in the Eastern part of the state.

At that time the charge consisted of five weak churches, four in Union County and one near Fort Mills, S. C. New Hope Church was the strongest of the five.

Many of the people were disappointed because Rev. Henderson did not return, and many in several of the churches failed to co-operate because of this disappointment, especially at new Hope. This made it unpleasant for the young preacher. He realized the handicaps and did well with the problems.

On February 8, 1935, death visited the community and took another Charter member, Mrs. Jane Belk, wife of John R. Belk. Mrs. Belk was devoted to her church, and attended upon its services as long as her health would permit. She was almost an invalid for several years before her death.

Nothing is known by the author of the accomplishments this year, except some outstanding things remembered. The revival was conducted in August. Dr. S. W. Taylor assisted in the revival with fair results.

J. W. Richardson was Sunday School Superintendent, Edd Clawson teacher of the adult class, Sam Aycoth pianist, Myrtle Cook assistant pianist.

The year closed with much of the pastor's salary unpaid. However, New Hope paid her part. New

Hope and Antioch Churches of the Mecklenburg Charge are found on the Honor Roll of churches paying pastor's salary in full for 1935. The pastor only received \$550.00 of the \$800.00 promised.

Joe Ross, of New Hope Church, was elected delegate to the Annual Conference, which was to be held in Henderson, N. C.

Rev. Robert Short, 1936—Little can be said of this year, as this book will go to press before much of this year is gone.

The Charge received a new pastor, Rev. Robert Short, who came to the work from the Anderson Charge in South Carolina. He came to the work early, and was not long getting acquainted with the work and the people. Rev. Short had served the work before in 1925 and 1926, although this was before New Hope Church became a part of the Charge. He very easily adapted himself to the people at New Hope.

Rev. Short was the type of preacher the people of New Hope liked, therefore all offered splendid cooperation and the work now showed a wonderful chance of advancement.

Following were the officials of that year: Stewards, T. B. Cook, Robert Cook, Robert Helms, Joe Ross and Edd Clawson. Pianists, Myrtle Cook and Margie Aycoth; Sunday School Secretary, Ernest Cook; Class Leader, J. W. Richardson.

On March 22nd, 1936, a spring revival was planned by the pastor, and was assisted by Rev. Earl A. Cook.

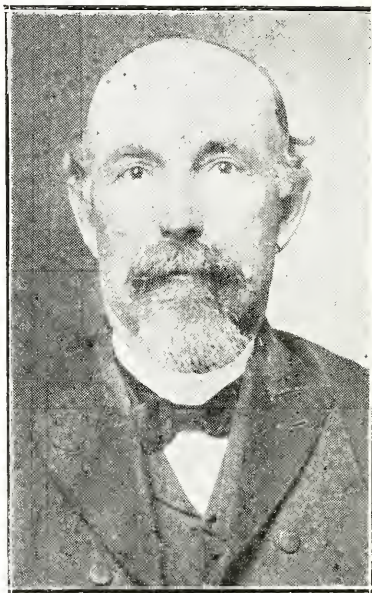
CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF PASTORS

- 1889—Organization, by Rev. F. A. Sides
1890-1891—Rev. F. A. Sides
1892—Rev. D. A. Braswell, Supply
1893-1894—Rev. J. S. Dunn
1895-1896—Rev. G. H. Austin
 Monroe and Wadesboro Circuit united, Now
 Wadesboro Circuit
1897—Rev. R. L. Davis
1898—Rev. J. N. Garrett
1899-1902—Rev. J. L. Giles
 Circuit divided again. Now Monroe Circuit
1903—Rev. J. H. Turner
1904—Rev. W. D. Reed
1905—Rev. I. I. York
1906—Rev. J. B. Parham
1907—Rev. C. W. Baliff
1908-1911—Rev. Wm. P. Martin
1912—Rev. J. W. Self
1913—Rev. O. D. Stacy
 Name of Circuit changed. Now Pageland
 Circuit.
1914-1924—Rev. J. W. Quick
1925—Rev. M. Ivey Crutchfield
1926-1929—Rev. C. E. Phillips
 Rev. Phillips resigned in May 1929
1929, Last Half—Rev. T. Glenn Madison
1930—Rev. T. E. Martin
 Pageland Circuit dissolved. New Hope now on
 Mecklenburg
1931—Rev. Q. L. Joyner
1932—Rev. J. L. Love
1933-1934—Rev. M. C. Henderson
1935—Rev. P. E. Bingham
1936—Rev. Robert Short



Biographies and Obituaries
of
PASTORS
Who Have Served
New Hope Church





REV. F. A. SIDES

**Organizer of New Hope Methodist Protestant Church
1889. Pastor 1889, 1890, and 1891**

REV. FRANK A. SIDES

Rev. Frank A. Sides was born August 16, 1848, in Stanly County, North Carolina. He died November 5th, 1909. Brother Sides was a son of Alexander and Barbara (Hatley) Sides. He spent his boyhood days on his father's farm, and was taught the great Love of Christ, and the great necessity of serving Him. He attended the local Free Schools of his community, where he secured a fair education.

On the 15th day of December, 1867, he was united in marriage with Miss Amanda J. Moose. To this union were born nine children: Mrs. Jim Kennely, Mrs. M. M. Furr, Mrs. J. L. Furr, deceased; D. Walter Sides, Charlie A. Sides, deceased; Pierce C. Sides, Mrs. J. W. Hornbuckle, Willie Sides, deceased; and Geneva Sides, deceased. Soon after his marriage he purchased a farm near Plyler, N. C., about five miles north of Albemarle, in Stanly County, where he spent the large part of his life. He was happily converted in 1877 and joined Friendship Methodist Protestant Church, of his community. Some time later he answered the divine call to the Ministry, and was licensed by the local Quarterly Conference of his Church.

In the year 1887 he joined the North Carolina Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, and was assigned to the Monroe Circuit, to serve the Conference year of 1888. In that year he became acquainted with some of the people of old Shiloh Community, now known as New Hope Community. They were having some considerable trouble with their M.

E. Pastor; the people asked Brother Sides to serve them temporarily, which he did for some time. During the summer of 1888 Shiloh M. E. Church burned. Early in the year of 1889 another Church was organized by Brother Sides, and under the Methodist Protestant Conference. It was later called "New Hope" Methodist Protestant Church.

Brother Sides was loved by all the people of New Hope Community while he was with them. Today many treasure the memory of him, who have never seen him, for the great work which he did in organizing New Hope Church. Can we ever forget him? He who labored in the rough, to institute a place, a shelter for our Christian lives? God forbid.

Brother Sides was a very effective preacher, as well as pastor, and did well exercise his faith in God. It seemed that he prospered in everything which he did. It can truly be said of him: "Gone but not forgotten."

Brother Sides served the Monroe Circuit four years: in 1888, the year before New Hope was organized; in 1889, the year New Hope was organized; and in 1890 and 1891, the two years he served us as an organized church.

Brother Sides has the credit for the organization of other Methodist Protestant Churches in Union County and elsewhere. We are very sorry that we cannot give the names and the number of them. Some of his Churches, however, have gone to the M. E. Conference, since he has not been able to be among them. God has kept a close record of his great work, though we might forget, God does not.

His body was laid to rest in Friendship Cemetery, where it awaits the Resurrection of the Saints.



REV. D. A. BRASWELL

Supplied New Hope Church in the absence of a
Pastor in 1892

REV. D. A. BRASWELL



Rev. D. A. Braswell was born October 6th, 1853, in Anson County, North Carolina, the son of John W. and Lucy E. Braswell.

On October 27, 1872, he was married to Martha Hane Bryant. To this union were born nine children, three of them preceded him to the grave. The children surviving are as follows: J. T. Braswell, Hamlet, N. C.; Mrs. S. O. Bundy, Concord, N. C.; John S. Braswell, Rockingham, N. C.; Mrs. David Eudy, Hamlet, N. C.; Mrs. B. F. Waddell, and Mrs. Fannie Garmon, of Concord, N. C.

He was converted early in life and joined Hopewell M. E. Church. He was granted license to exhort in this church. Later Friendship Methodist Protestant Church was organized in his community and he moved his membership there, being one of the charter members.

He joined the North Carolina Conference at LaGrange in 1893 and was ordained at Burlington Conference in 1896.

He served the following charges: Albemarle, 1896, 1897, 1898; Plymouth and Edenton, 1899, 1900; Buncombe, 1901; Ivey, 1902, 1903; Concord, 1904, 1905, 1906, 1907; Fairview, 1908; 1909; Denton, 1910; 1911; Conference Evangelist, 1912; Charlotte, 1913, 1914; Uwharrie, 1915; Evangelistic work 1916, Lexington Mission 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921.

In 1922 he was left without work at his own request to again engage in Evangelistic Work.

While he was in his local work, and before he joined the Methodist Protestant Conference he served the Monroe Circuit in the absence of a pastor. This was the year New Hope Church was erected, 1892.

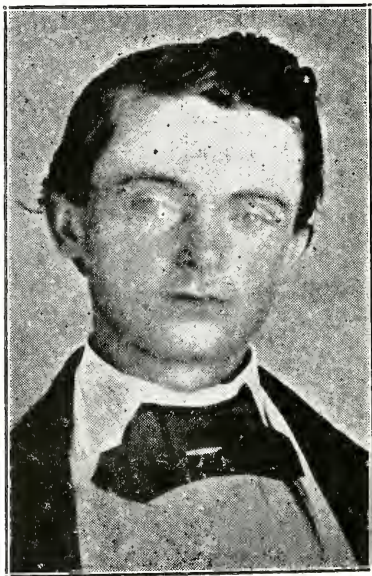
In 1923 he was superannuated. Although a superannuate during the years 1923, 1924, 1925, and 1926, he was not idle but continued to do all he could to assist in the furtherance of the Master's Kingdom. He was remarkably successful in his zealous work for the King.

He was a pioneer worker in many communities for the Methodist Protestant Church. It was directly through his personal efforts that churches were organized in Plymouth, Edenton, Mt. Elmer, Mt. Hermon (Creswell Circuit), Concord, Charlotte, Roberta, Rockingham, and Spencer. He had also worked up quite an interest in Lexington and led in the purchase of a lot where our State Church now stands.

On the 25th of December, 1927, on Christmas Day, he was released from his suffering, and was translated to that home above to be "ever present with the Lord" and to meet his loved ones and so many of his brethren of the ministry, who had outstripped him in the heavenly race; and the many redeemed souls whom he had led to Jesus during his long, useful ministry.

His funeral was held in the Concord Methodist Protestant Church, conducted by Rev. W. F. Ashburn, assisted by Rev. G. H. Hendry, Rev. N. G. Bethea, Dr. A. G. Dixon and Rev. S. W. Taylor.

The remains were gently laid to rest in the Concord cemetery to await the glorious resurrection of the saints.



REV. J. S. DUNN.

Pastor of New Hope Methodist Protestant Church
Two Years, 1893 and 1894.

REV. J. S. DUNN.



Rev. J. S. Dunn was born in Fayetteville, N. C., April 14th, 1836. He was reared on the farm and attended the local school of his community, and was reared under the influences of a Christian home. God dealt gently with him. He professed faith in Christ when he was quite a young man. God pressed him with the Divine Call to preach the Gospel. He entered the great work at the age of twenty years. His work was local for some time, and he preached the Gospel of Christ without fear, and was very able in the work.

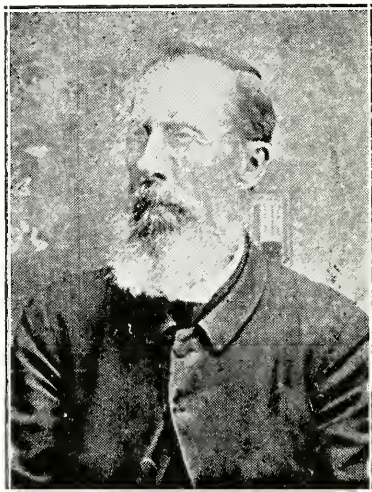
He entered the Conference Classes of the Methodist Protestant Church and was ordained an Elder in the Church of Christ at the Conference of 1868.

He was united in marriage with Miss Mary Jane Haskell, of Fayetteville. To this union were born three children, Alpha, Virden and Ethel. The latter, Mrs. Ethel Neems, of Durham, N. C., is the only living member of the family.

Rev. Dunn gave the most of his life in service, and served many pastoral charges in the Conference, of

which we are unable to give, although he served the Monroe Circuit two years, 1893 and 1894. He was the third pastor of New Hope Church of the Monroe Circuit, and it was he who suggested the name "New Hope." He was nearing old age at that time, almost sixty years old. The year 1899 he was left in the hands of the President, also the years 1902-1904 because of ill health. He was superannuated about 1905.

He passed from this life to life everlasting on the 10th day of March 1908. His body was laid to rest in Durham, N. C., where it awaits the First Resurrection Morn, leaving his only child and a great host of friends to mourn their loss.



REV. J. N. GARRETT

**Pastor of New Hope Methodist Protestant Church
The Year 1898**

REV. J. N. GARRETT



Rev. John Newton Garrett was born in Alamance County, N. C., on May 28th, 1848. He began active work in his home church very early in life, and was a most sincere man in religious work.

He was united in marriage with Miss Mollie Phillips, December 21st, 1876, of Yadkin College, N. C. To this union were born six children, three sons and three daughters: Jewell, Ila, Ruby, Brice, Vance and Vera Garrett.

Rev. Garrett was reared on the farm. He was studious and applied himself to his books. He completed his education at Yadkin College, N. C., and for several years taught school. Rev. T. M. Johnson, one of our highly esteemed members of the North Carolina Conference, was one of his students. He was first licensed to preach on Alamance Circuit, November 2nd, 1872. Rev. J. W. Heath was his pastor. He was ordained Elder in the Methodist Protestant Church at the Conference of 1880, Rev. J. R. Ball, President. He began active service in the conference year 1882, after this time he was regularly engaged in

pastoral work for seventeen years, during which time he served the following fields: Alamance, Forsyth, Mecklenburg, Mocksville, Rowan Mission, Randolph, Surry, and in 1898 he served the Wadesboro Circuit of which New Hope Church was a part, and his last work was his home work, Yadkin College Circuit in 1899.

Rev. Garrett worked hard and regularly in the Gospel field, having to work under the disadvantage of defective vision made his work harder for him. His eyes continued to fail until in later years he became blind. Largely from the result of his blindness he was superannuated in the Conference of 1899.

He lived in his home at Yadkin College from the fall of 1899 to his death, which was on July 29th, 1912, at the age of 64 years, two months and one day.

Rev. Garrett suffered very much before the end came, but he endured it with faith. His mind was clear until the last.

After Brother Garrett was taken, the family moved from the Yadkin College home to a home near Graham, N. C., in the same county.





REV. J. L. GILES.

Pastor of New Hope Methodist Protestant
Church four years, 1899, 1900, 1901 & 1902.

REV. J. L. GILES



Rev. Jesse L. Giles was born in Randolph County, N. C., May 3rd, 1839, and died at his home in Winston-Salem, N. C., May 22nd, 1914. He was the son of Reuben and Anna Giles. His father was a minister and one of the first promoters of the Methodist Protestant Church in Randolph County. Rev. Giles was converted early in life. He began his ministry in 1860 when he was 21 years of age. Seven years later he was ordained an elder in the Methodist Church, a branch of the Methodist Protestant Church, and later united with the Methodist Protestant Church. His elder's credentials bear the name of Rev. Quinton Holton as President of the Conference, and J. A. Huggins, Secretary.

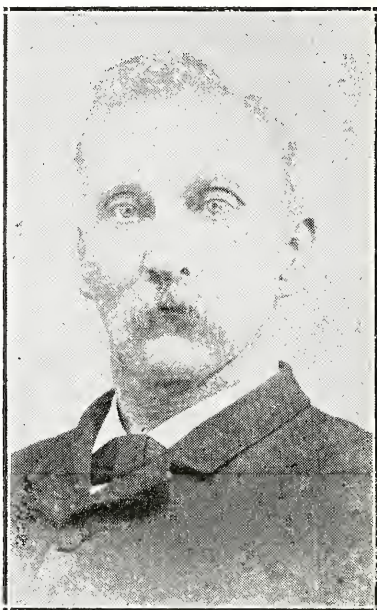
In 1865 Rev. Giles was married to Miss Nannie J. York with whom he lived happily till her death in 1893. Four children blessed the union.

In 1900 he was married the second time to Miss Lula Braswell. Two children were born of this union, one of whom died in infancy. The other child, Johnson Cicero. Rev. Giles was happy in his home

life. His wife being the stronger of the two was the bread winner in their last years. She was devoted and industrious, though the heavy responsibilities of the home fell upon her, she bore them gladly and well.

The last charge that Rev. Giles served was Winston Mission. His health failed while he was on that work and he never sufficiently recovered to take up work again. It is impossible to give all the names of the places he served in his fifty years of pastoral service. He served the Wadesboro Circuit four years, 1899-1902, of which New Hope Church was a part at that time.

Rev. Giles was a sweet-spirited, inoffensive Christian gentleman. His years of physical infirmity were spent in patient and trustful reliance upon God, whom he served for so many years. When the end came it was like the gathering of a ripe shock of corn. He had lived out his days; he had finished his work, and it only remained for God to send His angels and gather him into the garners above.



REV. JOHN H. TURNER

Pastor of New Hope Methodist Protestant Church
The Year 1903

REV. JOHN H. TURNER



Rev. John H. Turner was born July 16th, 1838. He died on Monday, August 21st, 1911. He was the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Gary Turner, of Alabama. Brother Turner was converted in 1858, at the age of twenty years, and united with the Methodist Episcopal Church. He felt the great call to preach and was licensed to preach in that church. He remained in the M. E. Church for a number of years as a local preacher until the General Conference of that Church passed a law requiring all local preachers to have permission to preach in any Methodist Episcopal Church. This affected him that he withdrew from the Church and Conference and joined the South Carolina Methodist Protestant Conference in 1897. He served a number of Charges in that Conference, also serving as its President for two years.

In 1901 he was transferred to the North Carolina Conference, as his home County, Chesterfield, was taken over by the North Carolina Conference. Rev. Turner was assigned to the work in Chesterfield, S. C.

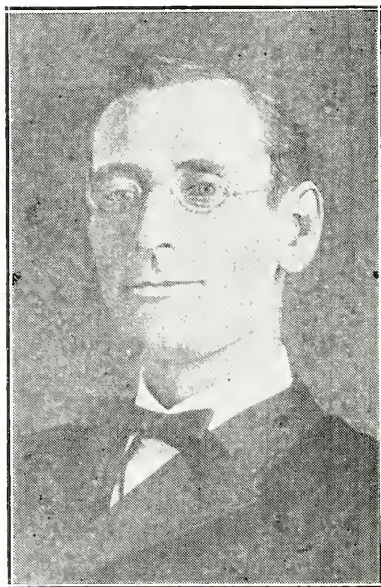
By his earnest labors in the work in South Carolina he organized and bult Rose Hill Methodist Protestant Church at Pageland.

He was united in marriage with Miss Mary Shaw on February 25th, 1857. To this union were born nine children.

After the death of his first wife he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Mangum, of Chesterfield County, on February 25th, 1875. To this union were born twelve children, of which one, Robert P. Turner, is an active minister in the Methodist Episcopal Conference of South Carolina.

Rev. Turner was an industrious and faithful pastor and a man of strong determination. He was regarded as a man of fine intellect and courage. He was well informed and most able in prayer and had fine preaching ability and could hold a congregation an over-limited time with ease. When the end was near he realized it, and was fully prepared to go. His body now rests in Rose Hill Cemetery, near where the church stood which he organized; a place always near his heart. A beautiful monument marks his resting place, placed there by his many kind friends and loved ones.

May we all live in this world, that when the Lord returns, we can share with Rev. Turner in that last and great reward.



REV. W. D. REED

Pastor of New Hone Methodist Protestant Church
the Year 1904

REV. W. D. REED



Rev. William Dixon Reed was born at Locust Level, Stanly County, N. C. He attended the local schools of his community, and received his higher literary training at Yadkin College, N. C. He was the son of the late Henry Reed of Stanly County. Under the Christian influence of his home he was taught the need of a Christian life.

He was united in marriage with Miss Laura Jennett Moss, of Stanly County. To this union were born five children: Lethie, Buna, Grady, Lucius and Clifton. Lucius died in infancy, Buna died at the age of thirty-two.

While he was a young man, he became deeply impressed with the call to the ministry; later he gave himself to Christ, to be used in that work. After preaching local a few years, he was assigned to the Monroe Circuit as his first pastoral work, in 1904. New Hope Church was one of the seven churches that constituted that Circuit. It was necessary that a weekly travel of more than fifty miles, with horse and buggy, be made to reach the appointments. He traveled in storms rather than miss an appointment, which to him was a thing too sacred to be treated lightly. During his short pastorate of one year on the Monroe Circuit, he made great improvements on Friendship Church, Peachland and New Hope. In 1905 he served Mecklenburg. It is not known where he served in 1906. In 1907, 1908 Chatham, 1909 unknown, 1910-1913 Cleveland, 1914-1916 Stanly, 1917

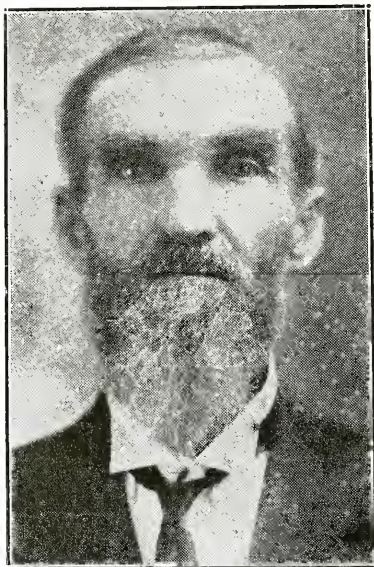
Denton, 1918 Thomasville First, 1919-1921 Stanly, 1922, 1923 Pinnacle, 1924-1927 Haw River, in 1928 he was left without an appointment at his own request; 1929, 1930 Davidson, 1931 Kernersville, 1932-1934 Midland, 1935 and 1936 Friendship Station. He is now serving his thirty-second year in the pastoral field. He was ordained Elder about 1908.

He is numbered among the best church builders of the Conference. The following churches have been built under his ministry: Siler City, Pine Grove, then on Chatham Circuit, Oak Grove and Mt. Moriah on Cleveland Charge, Denton Station, Porter Station, Mizpah and Midway on Haw River Charge, besides a score of other churches repaired and made new by his untiring efforts.

He is quiet, and unassuming, never clamoring for high places. He is stern in his convictions. He has always been a dreaded foe of the rum traffic. On one occasion, when he served in the hilly country, he put his life in jeopardy that he might save the youth of the country from the curse of strong drink; and he won, driving sixty-nine persons from that section.

He is still active and youthful in spirit and going strong, though somewhat advanced in years.





REV. I. I. YORK.

Pastor of New Hope Church the year 1905.

REV. ISAAC I. YORK



Rev. Isaac Isaiah York was born February 9th, 1841, in Richland County. He was the son of John H. and Mary York. In 1843, when Rev. York was two years old, his father moved to Iredell County, near Olin, N. C., the community of Union Grove Methodist Protestant Church.

In the year 1854, at the age of thirteen years, he gave his heart to God and joined Union Grove Methodist Protestant Church. In this fellowship he was happy and contented, and all the years of his long life he gave to the support of the church of his childhood.

In 1858, at the age of seventeen, he enlisted in Company A 33rd Regiment of the Southern Army. During the three and one-half years in which he was in the army, a part of his time he acted as Scroll Master.

In his twenty-fifth year he was married to Miss Margaret E. Johnson, on December 18th, 1866. To this union three children were born, two died in infancy, one daughter living to adulthood; Mrs. J. C. Surratt. Death claimed his wife while he was yet a young man, and for several years he lived alone.

Brother York was impressed very much with his call to the ministry and was licensed to preach some time after the death of his first wife. He preached locally for several years.

While attending an Annual Conference, he met Miss Julia Ann Cecil, a daughter of a Methodist Protestant preacher, Rev. S. A. Cecil, who was at one time pastor of the Monroe Circuit, but before the organization of New Hope Church. On

February 9th, 1876, he was united in marriage with Miss Cecil. To this union five children were born, of which Dr. A. A. York, of High Point, is the elder.

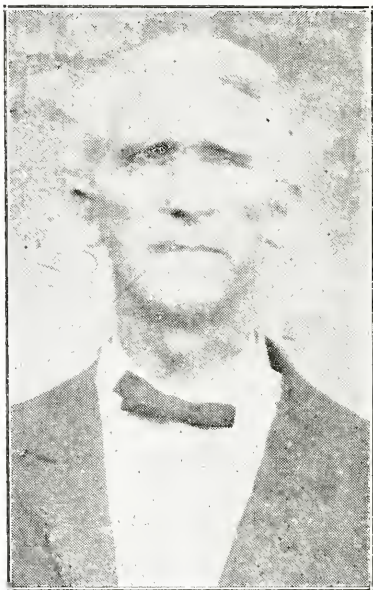
Soon after his second marriage he moved to Davidson County. There he purchased a farm, which was his home until his death.

He was admitted to the Conference in November 1879, and on November 24th, 1887, he was ordained an Elder in the Church of Christ. Rev. T. J. Ogburn was President of the Conference.

Rev. York served the following Charges: 1880-1881 Stanley; 1882-1883 Guilford; 1885 Forsyth; 1886 Catawba; 1887, 1888 and 1889 Stanley; 1890, 1891 and 1892 Surry; 1893-1894 Stanley; 1895-1896 Mecklenburg; 1897-1898 Lincolnton, 1899 Uwharrie; 1900 Davidson; 1901 in the hands of the President; 1902-1903 again in the hands of the President; in 1904 he was superannuated on Guilford Circuit; in 1905 he served the Monroe Circuit, of which New Hope was a part. At this point history fades and we are unable to give a record from 1905 to 1912, at which time he was placed on the superannuated list because of failing health.

As long as he was able he was a faithful and regular attendant at church, taking a lively interest in the work of the Kingdom. His health gradually failed until he became almost an invalid.

He fell asleep in Jesus at High Point, N. C., April 24th, 1924, having attained the ripe old age of eighty-three years, two months and fifteen days. He gave forty-five years of his life in the ministry of the Lord here on earth. He took his transfer and joined the Church Triumphant. His body lies buried in the cemetery at Spring Hill Methodist Protestant Church, near High Point, N. C.



REV. Wm. P. MARTIN

Pastor of New Hope Church for four years
1908, 1909, 1910, and 1911

REV. WILLIAM P. MARTIN.



William Pinkney Martin, Jr., was born December 25th, 1850, in Burke County, N. C., near what was then known as Meadows Methodist Protestant Church, later known as Burk's Chapel. He was the son of Wm. P. Martin, Sr.

He was converted in 1864, at the age of fourteen, and united with the Methodist Protestant Church. At this time he began his active Christian service. Beginning at his father's home, he held prayer meetings and carried them into almost every home in the community. Many souls were saved as a result of these prayer meetings.

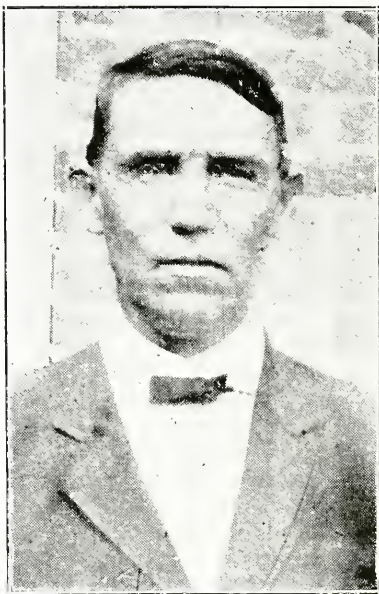
In 1870, at the age of twenty, he answered the call to the ministry, and entered the Conference Classes, he was ordained Elder in 1875. One year later he was united in marriage with Miss Jane Abee. To this union were born eight children. Only five lived to adulthood.

Mrs. Martin was a God-fearing wife and mother. She carried her part of the cross with her companion in the Ministry until October 27, 1907, at which time she passed from this life to be with God. Rev. Martin was now at a loss in this world, without the aid of a companion, but on the 6th day of August, 1909, was united in marriage with Miss Lillie Harrington, of Anson County. To this union three children were born.

His pastoral work began with the Caldwell Mission, now known as Connelly Springs, where he served for several years early in the seventies. His next appointment was the Monroe Circuit. This was several years before New Hope Church was organized. Then back to the Caldwell Circuit, then to Ivy Circuit, known later the Buncombe and Democrat, for three years. After this he retired from the pastoral work a few years, but continued his local work. He took up pastoral work again in 1908 on the Monroe Circuit. In 1912 and 1913 he served Mecklenburg, which was his last pastoral work. Because of his health, in 1914, he was left in the hands of the President.

Rev. Martin was never a strong man in health, and at the Conference of 1915 he was superannuated.

He was a good man and devoted himself to prayer. On July 6th, 1929, he passed from this life and on to his reward, which, according to his own statement, was a great reward. The three last years of his life were spent in reading the Bible and prayerful meditation upon the glories and realities of the Spirit world, to which he was now gone, leaving a host of relatives and friends.



REV. J. W. SELF

Pastor of New Hope Methodist Protestant Church
The Year 1912

REV. J. W. SELF



J. W. Self was born December 29th, 1870, in Cleveland County, near Mt. Moriah Methodist Protestant Church, on the Cleveland Circuit. He was an attentive member of the Sunday School of that church.

He was converted at the early age of fifteen in a revival at Mt. Morrah Church, with which Church he united. About one year later his father moved to Fallston, N. C., in the same county. There he attended Friendship Methodist Protestant Church.

On May 18th, 1895, he was united in marriage with Miss Iona Hoyle, of Cleveland County. After his marriage he moved to Caroleen, N. C. He and his wife moved their membership to Caroleen Methodist Protestant Church as charter members.

About the year 1897, he deeply realized the call to the ministry. He came into contact with the Rev. J. H. Moton and N. G. Bethea, who encouraged him, with their aid and prayers. They also aided by giving him the privilege of helping conduct revival meetings. He realized his education was very poor, and desired to go to school; so, in the fall of 1900 he moved to Yadkin College, where he secured a fair education.

Uwharrie Circuit was left unsupplied at the Conference of 1901, which he was later appointed to serve, by the President.

Rev. Self first came to us, at New Hope in a revival early in his ministry, in 1902, with Rev. N. G. Bethea, who assisted the pastor, Rev. J. L. Giles. The next time he came was in 1912 as pastor. He had a hard time getting located in the parsonage at Pageland, S. C. He packed the house-

hold goods on wagons and sent them on the way, he and his family following in his buggy leading his cow. It was very cold and began snowing on the way. He reached the New Hope community, which was about twenty miles from the parsonage. He decided to wait until the weather became better, stopping in the home of W. C. Belk. He remained there for a week or ten days, before the weather permitted his leaving.

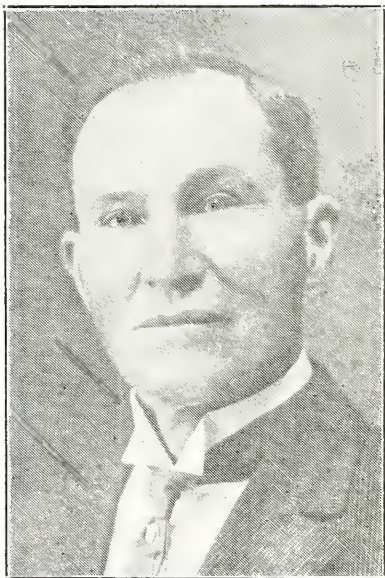
In the spring of 1912 he purchased a Saxon automobile to travel his Circuit.

In the fall of 1907 he lost his wife and baby, which was a great tragedy in his life, leaving four small children in his care. He was then living at Denton, N. C. He lived alone with his children until the late fall of 1909 when he was united in marriage with Miss Priscilla Snyder.

Brother Self served the following charges: 1902, Uwharrie; 1904, West Lexington; 1905, 1906 and 1907, Uwharrie; after the death of his wife, in 1907, at his own request, he was left without work during 1908 and 1909; in 1910 he served Caroleen; 1911 Mecklenburg; 1912 Pageland, 1913 and 1914, Mocksville; 1915, Gibsonville; 1916, North Davidson; 1917 and 1918 Lincolnton. At that time Rev. Self was advancing in years, and his health was not good. He thought it best to retire from the work, as the Conference was showing less favor to the older uneducated ministers and more favor to the young, educated ministers, which were in more demand.

He preached as a local preacher four years, entered the Conference in 1902, was ordained an Elder in the Methodist Protestant Church in 1912.

Since he retired from the ministry he located at Cherryville, N. C., where he was still located at the time this was published.



REV. O. D. STACY.

Pastor of New Hope Church the year 1913.

REV. O. D. STACY



Rev. Oliver Durant Stacy was born in Rutherford County, N. C., September 28th, 1852. He died at Wilkesboro, N. C., May 26th, 1924. He was 72 years, eight months, and 28 days of age.

He was converted September 1st, 1868, and united with Old Pisgah Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in Rutherford County.

He was joined in Holy wedlock with Miss Martha A. Morrison, of the same county, February 10th, 1871. To this union seven children were born, Claude, Sarah (Sisk), Justine, Robert O., Oliver H., Thomas G., Mrs. A. O. Ammons, all of Gastonia, N. C.

Rev. Stacy was first licensed to exhort by the M. E. Church, South, in West End, Gastonia, on April 16th, 1904. His work was local and was done with zeal and determination. Some years later he united with the Methodist Protestant Church in Gastonia, and was licensed to preach in that church in 1908. He was recommended to the Annual Conference and was admitted to the classes and recommended for work in the Conference. He served the following Charges in the

Methodist Protestant Church in North Carolina: Mecklenburg 1909 and 1910; Monroe 1913, a Charge of which New Hope was a part. Some time later he was again licensed to preach in the M. E. Church, and served the following charges in that Conference: Oakboro, Hanes, Clemmons, Elkland, North Wilks and Laurel Springs.

Rev. Stacy was twice married. His first wife died March 5th, 1912. On April 4th, 1915, he was united in marriage with Miss Florence Waugh, of Alexander County, N. C. To this union was born one daughter, Mary Cozette Stacy. After Rev. Stacy's death his widow and daughter made their home in Winston-Salem, N. C.

He was ordained Deacon by Bishop U. V. W. Darlington, of the M. E. Church, on November 24th, 1918, in Charlotte, N. C.

His body was brought to West End Church in Gastonia, where the last words were said by the following distinguished M. E. Ministers: Rev. M. T. Smathers, Rev. S. M. Needham, Rev. C. M. Campbell, Rev. M. W. Heckard, Rev. G. W. Vick, Rev. W. L. C. Killian, and Rev. Dwight W. Brown. His body was laid to rest in the family plot in Oakland Cemetery, in Gastonia, N. C.



REV. J. W. QUICK

Pastor of New Hope Church 11½ years, 1914
to May 1925.

REV. J. W. QUICK

Rev. John Wesley Quick was born in Marlboro County, near Bennettsville, S. C., October 8th, 1872, was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Maston Quick.

From boyhood he was impressed with the call to the ministry, but like many others, resisted the call and followed other work for a long time,, finally making a complete surrender to the Lord. Many times have we heard him tell of his experience in answering the Divine Call.

In his young manhood he lost his right arm in a gin. Rev. Quick stated that at this time, God warned him of the call to the ministry for the last time. After this, the Lord dealt mightily with him until he placed himself in the hands of God to preach His Gospel.

He was united in marriage with Miss Belle Sowell January 6th, 1896, of Pageland, S. C. To this union were born six children, one son and five daughters. One daughter died only a few months before his departure. After his marriage, he made his home in Pageland, S. C., and became a devoted member of Rose Hill Methodist Protestant Church. He was licensed to preach by his local Quarterly Conference the year 1912. He entered the Conference classes in 1913, and was recommended for work by the Faculty. At that Conference, he was assigned to the Pageland Charge, thus, beginning his first pastoral work in the Conference year of 1914. For eleven and one-half years he served as pastor of the Pageland Charge.

At the Annual Conference in the fall of 1924, at the request of his doctor, he was left without appointment, as his health had been failing him for more than two years. At the request of the President he agreed to serve the Pageland Charge six months longer, until the pastor, who had been assigned to the charge, could come which would be in May.

He had been in declining health for two years, or more, but his heart was so full in the work that he continued to work, when he should have been resting. His health grew

worse and at the Annual Conference at Reidsville, N. C., in 1924, he was very weak and feeble. How we remember seeing him as he walked so slowly to the altar and there knelt to be ordained an Elder in the Methodist Protestant Church. He returned and finished his pastoral work the following Spring.

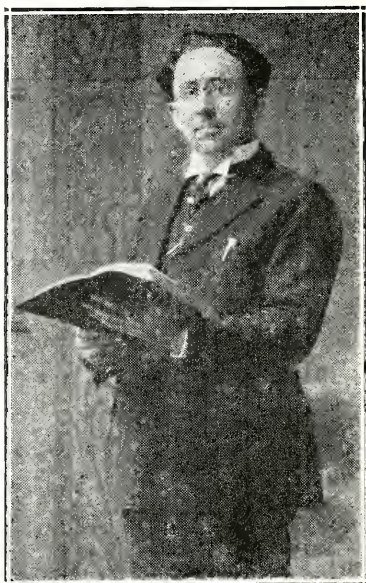
While studying and preparing himself for the Master's work, he was appointed Postmaster at Pageland, S. C. This office was never taken away from him, being postmaster at the time of his death. He lived to see the office grow from a small office to an office of importance. He was faithful as a government employee.

Brother Quick did some wonderful and effective work on the Pageland Charge, especially in New Hope Church. He came to that Church when it was in a rundown condition, and against the will of several official members of that church. He said he would serve the church if they did not pay him a penny. Before he had served the church very long he proved to be a lovable pastor, and was loved by all the people. When he came to New Hope Church it was paying only sixty-five dollars; the salary was increased every year until it reached six hundred dollars. His salary there was always paid and many times over paid.

He insisted for several years that New Hope Church be remodeled and, in the summer of 1918 the south wing was added, which made the church much larger.

On April 5, 1926, he departed this life and went to be with God. Funeral services were held at Rose Hill Methodist Protestant Church in Pageland, S. C. There were present: the ministers of Pageland and a great concourse of people who loved him and his work. The funeral was conducted by his pastor, Rev. C. E. Phillips. He was laid to rest in Rose Hill Cemetery, to await the Resurrection Morn.

He was a faithful friend, an industrious pastor and a good preacher. His faith was strong which carried him through many trials. That same faith sustained him to the end. When he reached the shining shore, we are sure he heard the welcoming words from the Master; there he rests with God and will welcome us home, when we come.



REV. C. EVERETTE PHILLIPS

Pastor of New Hope Methodist Protestant Church
Three and One-half Years, 1926, 1927, 1928, and
Until May 1929

REV. C. EVERETTE PHILLIPS



Rev. C. Everette Phillips was born in Cleveland County, July 16th, 1896. He was reared on the farm of his father, in Cleveland County, North Carolina, and under the influence of Christian parents. His parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Later, Rev. Phillips was converted and united with his father's and mother's favorite church, but later united with the Methodist Protestant Church, the Church of his choice.

He attended the graded school of his home community, Piedmont High School and Business College, Lawndale, N. C. He then entered the Hamilton College of Law, in Chicago, Ill., where he attended for some time, finishing his course in law at LaSalle University in Chicago. After returning home from Chicago, he was wonderfully converted. At that time, he felt the Divine Call to the Gospel Ministry. For that reason, he never practiced law.

Feeling that he was not yet prepared to enter the Ministry, he entered the College of Divine Metaphysics of Indianapolis, Ind., where he completed his Ministerial Course, and later attained the degree "Doctor of Divinity." He was licensed to preach by his local church in August, 1919, after which he entered the Conference Classes of the Methodist Protestant Church, where he finished the required work of the Conference. He was ordained Elder in the Methodist Protestant Church at Thomasville, N. C., November 4th, 1923. His first assignment was pastor of the Bess Chapel Charge, the Conference year of 1921. In 1922 he served Bessemer City, and in 1923 he served Bessemer City and Fairfield, In 1924 he served Bessemer City and Cornelius, in 1925 Lincolnton and Cornelius, in 1926 he was assigned to the Pageland Charge, of which New Hope Church was a part. In that year, Rev. Phillips served Cornelius also. He served the Pageland

Charge three and one-half years, 1926, 1927, 1928, and until the first of May, 1929. Brother Phillips did some very effective and lasting work on the Pageland Charge and especially in New Hope Church. He first came in August, 1924, to assist the pastor in a revival meeting,, at which time he organized an evangelistic club known as the Phillips Evangelistic Club, which was a great success for several years. Then again in 1925 when he assisted the pastor, Rev. M. I. Crutchfield, in the revival. In December, 1925, he conducted a ten-day revival in the Union County Court House, in Monroe, N. C. "

In the revival meeting of 1925 he organized an official committee to aid in the erecting of a large arbor in the spring of 1926, several hundred dollars were subscribed, also a large amount of material. He came to us the following year, 1926, as pastor, and personally assisted in the erection of the arbor.

There were a large number of new members added to the Church the three and one-half years he was pastor. In the beginning of his fourth year as pastor of the Pageland Charge his health began to fail until at last his health would not permit him to be out in the work he loved so well. While under the care of a physician, he was taken to the home of his father in Bessemer City, North Carolina, where he could be cared for. In May, he was released from his duties as pastor of the Pageland Charge. After regaining his health, in the summer, he began active work in his home Church of Bessemer City, of which Rev. M. C. Henderson was pastor. In the Annual Conference, held in Calvary Church, Greensboro, North Carolina, 1929, he resigned as a member of the Annual Conference.

In the spring or summer, of 1930, he united with the Missionary Baptist Church of Bessemer City, later in the year, he accepted the pastorate of "Long Creek Memorial Baptist Church," of Dallas, N. C., which he served as pastor for many years.

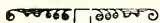
He is an able pastor and a successful evangelist.



REV. T. GLENN MADISON

**Pastor of New Hope Methodist Protestant Church
The Last Six Months of 1929**

REV. T. GLENN MADISON



T. Glenn Madison was born on April 28, 1898, in Union Grove Township of Iredell County, North Carolina. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Madison, of Iredell County, where he was reared. Rev. Madison was brought up in a Christian home, his father being a member of the Baptist Church and his mother a member of the Methodist Protestant Church. In 1912 he accepted Christ as his personal Savior and united with Union Grove Methodist Protestant Church. He was an active member, Sunday School teacher and Superintendent. He was the first young man to go out from his home church into the ministry. However, two have followed him. His second pastorate was in his home church, where he served two years.

Rev. Madison attended the graded school of his home community, and high school at Mountain View Institute. Here he did some work to earn his way in school. He was President of the B. Y. P. U. and a member of the Debating Team of the institution. For two years he taught school in his own community. Realizing his call to the Christian Ministry he sacrificed all his future plans for the sake of that work.

Just at that time High Point College, the baby institution of the Methodist Protestant Church, was opening her doors to her first students. Through love and loyalty to his church and a desire to qualify for the great work of the Ministry, Rev. Madison entered college in 1924 as a member of the first student body, where for four years he pursued the required course of study, majoring in Religious Education, and graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree. He entered the active work of the ministry in November, 1925. He was licensed to preach by authority of his home church under the pastorate of Rev. W. T. Totten. While in college he served as student pastor of the Denton Charge during the conference year of 1925-1926, after which he was assigned to his home church, Union Grove Station, and Spencer Mission where he served during the remainder of his college course.

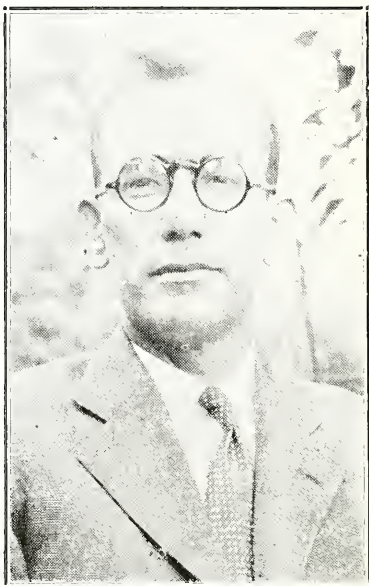
After graduation at High Point College in 1928, Rev. Madison entered Westminster Theological Seminary in September of the same year. Here he spent two years in higher education where he received his Bachelor of Sacred Theology degree in 1930. During the first school year here he served as pastor of the Quantico Charge of the Maryland Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church closing in May. Before the year closed he was notified of his assignment to fill out the unexpired term of Rev. C. E. Phillips as pastor of the Pageland Charge of the North Carolina Annual Conference. Immediately upon his return from Maryland he assumed his pastoral duties on this charge, where he continued until the opening of the next school term at the Seminary. During his second year at the seminary he served as speaker for the Anti-Saloon League of Maryland, which office he filled so adequately as to win for him the offer of a salaried position with that organization.

Because of his school work at the seminary, Rev. Madison was absent from the meeting of the North Carolina Annual Conference, November 6-11, 1929. This conference assigned him to First Methodist Church of Thomasville, where he assumed pastoral duties immediately upon his graduation at the seminary. He served this church 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, and 1935, and is now serving Cleveland Charge. He served as Secretary of the Ministerial Association of Thomasville.

Rev. Madison was ordained to the office of Elder in the Methodist Protestant Church by the North Carolina Annual Conference on November 9, 1930.

He was united in marriage with Miss Dora Ellen Pearson, of Triplet, Virginia, June 30, 1930. Rev. and Mrs. Madison were classmates during the four years in High Point College and graduated together in the class of '28.

Brother Madison is well prepared for his work, and is young in the ministry. We can see a great future for him in the ministerial work. The North Carolina Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church is indeed proud to have such able young men as Brother Madison.



REV. Q. L. JOYNER

Pastor of New Hope Methodist Protestant Church
The Year 1931

REV. Q. L. JOYNER

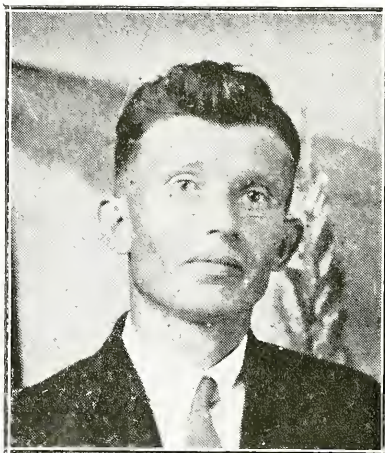


Rev. Q. L. Joyner was born on February 15th, 1893, in the Southern part of Catawba County. He was reared on the farm and continued this occupation until manhood. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Julius A. Joyner. He was reared under the Christian influence of an aunt. He was converted at the early age of seventeen years, and was called to the Christian Ministry some years later; the year 1924 he was licensed to preach in the Statesville District of the North Carolina Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Realizing his inefficiency to carry on the great work without an education, he entered Herrill's Ford High School, from which he graduated the year 1926. He also spent three and a half years in Rutherford College. During his school work he did some associated work with his pastor and has had some local work.

In 1928 he severed his relations with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and joined the North Carolina Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, and was admitted the same year on trial. On the following year he was assigned to the Weaverville

Charge in Buncombe County. After serving this Charge one year he was assigned to the Mecklenburg Charge, serving this work two years, 1930 and 1931. In his second year on this work the Pageland Charge was dissolved and New Hope was placed on the Mecklenburg Charge. Thus, Rev. Joyner only served New Hope Church one year. He was assigned next to the Richland Charge in Randolph County, where he served for two years, 1932 and 1933. Then the Greenville Charge in Virginia 1934 and 1935. He was left without appointment for 1936.

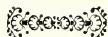
He was united in marriage to Miss Zilda Jones on May 14th, 1911, to this union were born three children, two girls and one boy.



REV. J. L. LOVE.

Pastor of New Hope Church the year 1932.

REV. J. L. LOVE



Rev. J. L. Love was born July 10th, 1899, in Cabarrus County, near Rocky River Presbyterian Church. He was the son of Mr. James T. and Ida Fink Love. He was the third child of a family of six children.

His father moved from one farm to another, and how he, as all children, would enjoy the new homes and the adventure of riding on the great loads of furniture. About the year 1911 his father moved to Concord, N. C. This was a red letter day in the life of this twelve year old country boy. It really fascinated him to think he was living in a place of factory whistles, clanging bells of the street cars and the bright lights of the streets.

His father secured for him a job in a textile factory, where he spent the remaining part of his boyhood life. He soon fell in with bad associates, and became hardened to the ways of his evil companions, who lead him from the religious ways taught him by his mother. She always insisted that her children go to Sunday School and public worship.

In early life he received the first impression of Christ, and the call to the ministry, but he flinched from it. Still under the Christian influence of a Godly mother he was kept pressed to his duty.

He was converted at the age of sixteen in a most peculiar manner. His Sunday School teacher, a little crippled woman, was very interested in him. She suggested that he join the Church, which he did. Nothing was said about the second birth, and of course, he knew nothing about it. When he knelt at the altar to receive the baptism he felt the great electrical power of God. Then he realized there was something more than merely uniting with the church. At this time he yielded to God. With this experience came the call to preach more forcibly than ever before, but realizing his in-

ability to preach he fought the call for two years, after which he began to prepare for the great work. He entered the S. I. Institute of Charlotte, N. C., where he received his high school training. While in school he met the girl who became his wife on December 28, 1922, who was Miss Mae Gasa, of Concord, N. C.

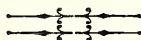
With this increased responsibility he felt justified to discontinue any further preparation for the ministry, and began to turn all his interests to the material side of life. He entered the insurance business, which he continued for several years. At different times God would remind him of His call, but he was too busy in business life. God caused misfortune to come; sickness came and his savings melted away, and he was soon down to a level where he would listen to God. After he was deeply in debt, through sickness and misfortune, he resigned his insurance work and entered the Conference Classes in 1926, although he had been licensed to preach in the M. E. Church to do local work since 1922, this was one thing which held him back, as he tried to satisfy himself and God with local work, another reason was, he had made numerous attempts to preach but would fail every time.

He lingered along with the three years study required by the Conference. Every year going to Conference expecting to get pastoral work, though the various charges were calling for experienced ministers. At that time it was very hard and discouraging for a young preacher, due to the great surplus of preachers in the Conference.

At the Conference of 1929, Kannapolis having been left unsupplied, he was assigned to this work at the request of the people. Since then he has served the following charges: 1920-1931 Kannapolis; 1932 Mecklenburg; 1933 Anderson, 1934-1935 Connelly Springs; 1936 Shelby-Caroleen, the time of which this publication goes to press.

He was ordained an Elder in the Methodist Protestant Church in November 1932. He has become an able minister and still has his life before him. We wish for him a successful ministry.

REV. M. C. HENDERSON.



Rev. M. C. Henderson was born May 3rd. 1896. in Caroleen. N. C.

He was one of a humble family of children. and received a fair education from the public schools of Caroleen. He was converted and joined the Methodist Protestant Church at Bessemer City. Later he felt the Divine Call to the ministry. and entered Rutherford College to better prepare himself for this great work.

He was admitted to the Conference Classes in 1925. and ordained an Elder in the Methodist Protestant Church in 1928. He has served the following works in the Conference: 1926 Democrat; 1927 Denton; 1929-1930 Bess Chapel-Bessemer City; 1931-1932 Anderson; 1933-1934 Mecklenburg; 1935-1936 Richland.

He was united in marriage with Miss Ollie Love. a sister of Rev. Fred R. Love. in November. 1913. To this union three children have been born: M. C. Jr., Billie. and Ruth.

Rev. Henderson has been a successful minister and there is much in the future for him.

REV. P. E. BINGHAM



Rev. P. E. Bingham was born in Cleveland County, near Fallston, N. C., on February 13th, 1903. He was reared on the farm, attended the local schools of his community, and finished his High School work in Fallston High School.

He was converted at the early age of ten years and joined Friendship Methodist Protestant Church at Fallston, N. C. He often felt the call to the ministry, but tried to forget it. He entered High Point College in the fall of 1924, expecting to prepare himself for a medical doctor, but the call to the ministry was so impressive upon him that he consulted his brother, who is a minister, then pastor of Graham Station. After prayer and advice his mind was fully made up to answer the call. He finished from High Point College with an A. B. degree. Then he entered Westminster Theological Seminary the fall of 1928. He finished there in the spring of 1930 with the degree of S. T. B.

On September 11th, 1929 he was united in marriage with Miss Mildred McSwain. To this union one son was born, Joseph Lawson Bingham.

He has served the following works in the Conference: 1931, 1932 and 1933 Littleton; 1934 Creswell; 1935 Mecklenburg.

Rev. Bingham is a brother of Rev. E. A. Bingham of the same Conference. He is a young man and is well prepared for the great work. We wish for him a success.



REV. P. E. BINGHAM

Pastor of New Hope Church the year 1935



REV. J. ROBERT SHORT
Pastor of New Hope Church the year 1936

REV. J. ROBERT SHORT



Rev. Robert Short was born May 8, 1884 in Cleveland County, near Casar, N. C. of very poor and humble parentage. His mother died when he was six years old. He lived with his uncle until he was thirteen.

He was converted in 1906, following the death of his first-born infant son, the one who had more to do with his change of life than all other human beings combined. The example of older people toward religion in the years past was everything but wholesome. He only had three months in Sunday School up until he was twenty-two years old. After conversion he joined Knob Creek Methodist Protestant Church, of which Rev. L. H. Hatley was pastor.

He answered the call to preach, and was licensed by the Third Quarterly Conference of Fallston Charge in 1913. The license was issued by the beloved N. J. Wright, a document which Rev. Short holds as a precious and sacred possession. He conducted his first revival under Rev. A. L. Hunter, at Macedonia, and his second also with Rev. Hunter at Laurel Hill Church.

His educational advantages were woefully limited. He attended the free school of the foothills which were only three or four months terms, with one teacher, which was poorly paid. High Schools were few and far between, and they were not free institutions. After his marriage to a little girl of sixteen, only two days younger than himself, made his encouragement much less to attend High School which was very expensive. With all this handicap they moved to a dormitory where he began high school, by working two days a week and going to school four. After his family grew so that his expenses for the family required a full time job, he

labored all day to support his little family, and at night he would spend an hour with a kind teacher who instructed him further in his school work. He bought books and read much. This and fourteen years of business contact made up his stock-in-trade on the way of academic training, only reaching about the ninth grade, yet this has not held him back from a successful ministry. He is an able preacher and one of the Conference's best pastors.

He was introduced to Conference at Enfield in 1920 by Rev. A. L. Hunter. He was admitted to the classes and recommended for work, and at that Conference he was assigned to Uwharrie Charge, and has been active in the ministry since that time. He has served the following Charges: Uwharrie 1921 and 1922, Davidson 1923 and 1924; Mecklenburg 1925 and 1926; Roberta 1927, 1928, 1929 and 1930; Denton 1931, 1932 and 1933; Anderson 1934 and 1935; then back to Mecklenburg 1936.

He was ordained November 7th, 1926, at Greensboro, N. C. He had no thought of his pastorates being anything but temporary, but in the words of the Poet, he has been "Ready to go; Ready to stay; Ready to do His will" wherever needed. He realizes now that the call was permanent.

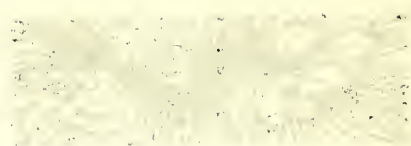
Until 1936 he has held 120 revival, had over 1500 professions, witnessed 1000 accessions in these revivals, conducted about 150 funerals, married 24 couples, preached about 2200 times, besides funerals and special addresses.

He was united in marriage with Miss Janel Buff, January 18th, 1900. The union was graced with seven children, four boys and three girls. The first child died at 18 months of age. Those living are: Virgie, Cottie, Robert, Jr., **Dexter** Howard and Myrtle.



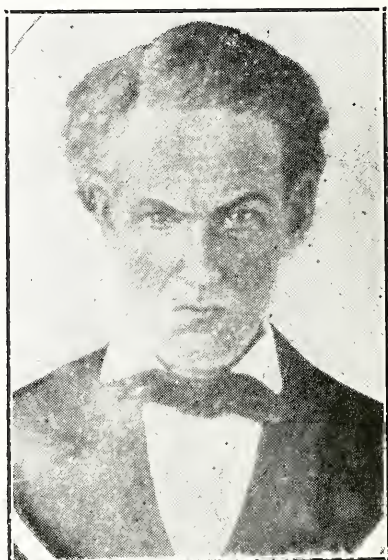
Biographies and Obituaries
of
Charter & Official Members
Of
New Hope Church





Illustrations and Descriptions
of
Various & Valuable Mineral
Fossils
from the
Strata of the Devonian Period





A. W. BELK

A Charter Member of New Hope Church.
Died January 20th, 1894

A. W. BELK
Charter Member



A. W. Belk, known to all his friends as Uncle Yad, was born in 1810, in Union County, Buford, Township. He was a son of Darling Belk, Sr.

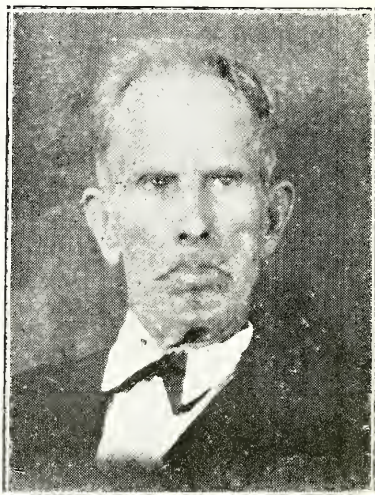
Mr. Belk was one of the early settlers of the community, which was first known as Shiloh community, then New Hope. He was converted early in life and joined Shiloh M. E. Church, where he worked faithfully until that church was destroyed by fire. Then he came to New Hope as a charter member. He only lived five years after the church was organized, but he did his part to get it started.

Mr. Belk married early in life to Miss Jane Belk. He was the father of Columbus (Lum) Belk and J. Pat Belk.

He owned much land in the community, and spent the most part of his life at the old Belk home place, known now as the Lum Belk old home. The old es-

tablished home burned about 1930.

He died January 20th, 1894, aged about 84 years. Funeral services were conducted by his pastor, Rev. J. S. Dunn. He was laid to rest in the New Hope Cemetery. His faithful companion followed him in death December 16th, 1903. She was about 81 years old.



W. C. BELK

A Charter Member of New Hope Church

W. COLUMBUS BELK

Charter Member



W. Columbus Belk was born January 5th, 1848, in Union County, Buford Township, the son of Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Belk. He was reared on the farm in old Shiloh Community, now known as New Hope Community. His father and mother were devoted Christians and members of Shiloh M. E. Church, therefore, Brother Belk was reared in a most humble and devoted Christian home.

He was united in marriage with Miss Mollie Robinson, of Mt. Crogan, S. C., on August 18th, 1873. To this union God entrusted eleven children, four girls and seven boys: Vergie, Era, Rebecca, Rosa, Fate, Robert DeWitt, Worth, Thomas, Ottis, and Paul. All of whom joined New Hope Church except Worth.

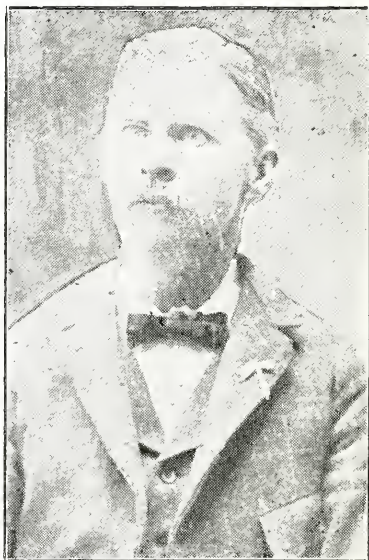
Mr. Belk has remained on the farm all his life, and is the owner of a large farm.

He was converted in his early twenties, and was loyal to his church. At the time of the organization of New Hope Methodist Protestant Church, he and his wife united as charter members, in which they have been faithful and active members ever since. He has served as steward and on several committees at numerous times. He was elected as Church Trustee

to succeed J. Cull Richardson at his death, an office of which he held until 1927, his son Robert Belk, succeeding him.

Brother Belk was very interested in the building of New Hope Church in 1892. He gave much of his time in labor, and a good donation in money. In the year 1918, when the church was re-covered and the south wing added, he, also took a great interest in this work and was a member of the finance committee. In the summer of 1926, when the Arbor was erected, he gave all the large cedar posts required to build the arbor, which amounted to a large sum. He also made a large donation in money.

At all times he has been faithful to his church, and has trained his children to be faithful to their church. We yearn for more fathers and mothers like Brother and Sister Belk. The Lord has blessed him greatly; there has not been a death in his large family, and he is blessed with the good old age of 88 years. He is getting very feeble, and the physical vision of both he and Mrs. Belk has left them, but their spiritual vision is getting brighter, and their life is happy in their Christian experience. May God give them many more healthy years with us in this world.



AARON COOK

A Charter Member of New Hope Church.
Died April 28th, 1917

AARON COOK

Charter Member



Aaron Cook was born March 11th, 1844, in Burke County. He was the son of David and Alcy Cook. He was reared in a poor, but humble country home. When he was eighteen years of age he volunteered for enlistment in the Southern army, and spent more than two years in that war. Many times we have heard him speak of being in battles, and how his soldier friends, on each side, would be shot down, but God protected him.

He was united in marriage with Miss Martha White, of Burke County, in 1865. To this union were born fifteen children: Deal, John, Robert, Mary, Dovie, Jim, Roxie, Dave, Lue, Lee, Tobe, Charlie, Miller, Ida and an infant who died at birth.

In the year 1879 he moved his family from the mountains of Burke County to Buford Township in Union County, about one mile from Shiloh Church. Not long after he moved he united with that Church.

Mr. Cook was a man with a business ability, was thrifty and always found something to do. As a result he accumulated wealth very fast. He first moved to what is known as the Dr. Jim Doster place and lived there a good many years, then he moved to the Maice Richardson place. While there, he purchased what is known as the Jake Starnes land, now known as the Little Pearce Aycoth home, later he moved there. He purchased much more land on these borders, known as Jim Aycoth home, John Morris home, the old Bud Ross farm, the Lee and Bundy Aycoth homes, the Harley Laney home, and J. P. Aycoth home. He built a modern

home on what is known as the Lee Aycoth home, where he lived until he left the state. He kept the country store for a good number of years.

After the burning of Shiloh Church he and Mrs. Cook came to New Hope Church as charter members. Mrs. Cook died in August, 1892, leaving a large family of motherless children.

Mr. Cook took to himself a second wife, Miss Emmie Presley, March 11th, 1894. To this union six children were born: Frank, Oscar, Tom, Walter, Bright and Annie Cook. The second wife was a member of the Baptist church, and a few years after his second marriage he joined Sandy Ridge Baptist Church, but soon came back to New Hope Church, where he remained a devoted member and worker.

At the recommendation of his son John, he decided, in his old age that he would move to South Georgia, so with his son they moved to Elza, Georgia, in 1914. All property in Union County was sold, and a nice home and farm was purchased in Georgia.

In 1915 his health began to fail him, and in 1916 he came back to Union County that he might die in his home state, leavinng his family in Georgia. He soon became homesick and begged to be taken back to Georgia. He was taken back, and his condition grew worse. On April 28th, 1917, he went to be with God. This was during the great World War, and transportation was almost impossible so his body was laid to rest in a little country cemetery in Elza, Georgia, between Reidsville and Lion, Georgia.

FISHER HELMS

Charter Member



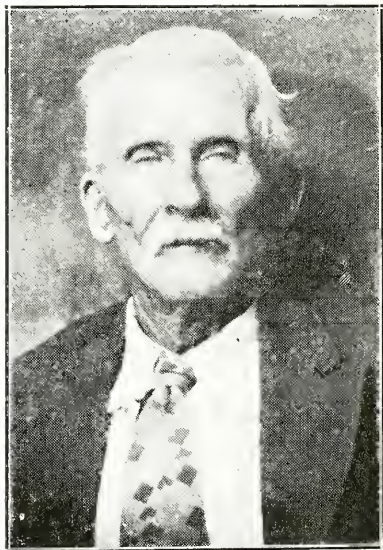
Fisher Helms was born January 21, 1842, died January 29, 1918. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Noah Helms and a brother of Mrs. J. R. Belk. Mr. Helms was reared on the farm and was an industrious young man.

He was united in marriage with Miss Tressa Belk, of Union County. There were no children born to this union. Mr. Helms moved from Union county in his late twenties, to some part of Mississippi, and remained for several years, then came back to Union County.

Mr. Helms enlisted in the Southern Army at the beginning of the Civil War in 1861, and remained there until the war ended.

He was converted early in life, and was loyal to his community church. He took a great interest in the building of New Hope Church, and was one among

the first members. He was a devoted Christian and a member of New Hope Church since it was built. He lived to a ripe old age of 76 years and 8 days. His body was laid to rest in New Hope Cemetery, where it awaits the First Resurrection Morn.



JOHN R. BELK

A Charter Member of New Hope Church and
one of the First Trustees

JOHN R. BELK

Charter Member



John R. Belk was born February 24th, 1855, in Union County, Buford Township. He was a son of the late G. W. Belk. Brother Belk was reared on the farm, and brought up in a Christian home.. He was taught to be loyal to the Church.

He was united in marriage to Miss Jane Helms, on April 6th, 1879. To this union were born ten children: Mrs. Jessie Yarbrough, deceased; Mrs. Ellen Helms, Mrs. Addie Long, Mrs. Eva Long, Charlie, deceased; Clyde, and Robert Belk. Three died in infancy.

Brother Belk was converted about the year 1889, and united with New Hope Methodist Protestant Church as a charter member. He was elected Chairman of the Board of Trustees of New Hope Church, of which office he held 38 years, from 1889 to 1927. He also served as Steward for 20 years in which office he was faithful in the discharge of his official duty. He also served as Sunday School Superintendent, and teacher of the adult Bible Class for a few years.

Brother Belk has always loved his church and has been loyal to it since he became a Christian. When his church would suffer he would suffer at heart. In

the many years of his Christian life he has never been absent from any service of the Church when his health would permit. Many times we know of him coming to Sunday School or Prayer Meeting when there was but one or two present besides himself. He would go in the church, read a portion of the Scripture, pray and return to his home. These conditions did not discourage him but he would go on with new courage.

Brother Belk is growing very old and feeble, and is not permitted to attend the services of his Church as he once did. He still possesses the faith, and says he is ready to go home when God sends for him. He has reached his 81st year, and we trust God will let him remain with us a good many years to come.

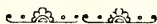


CULL RICHARDSON

Charter Member of New Hope Church and Pioneer Sunday School leader. Died March 21, 1916

CULL M. RICHARDSON

Sunday School Leader



Cull M. Richardson was born in old Shiloh community, Union County, N. C., December 30th, 1848. He was the son of Mason Richardson, a well known man in the community in his day, and was one of the best outstanding members of Shiloh Church. Brother Richardson was reared on the farm, his father was a prosperous farmer of the county. He was, from a child, taught to love the Bible and to fear God. As a result, he was converted at the age of seventeen and joined Shiloh Methodist Episcopal Church, and was an active member in that church. That was twenty-four years before the organization of New Hope Methodist Protestant Church. He served officially in Shiloh Church for twenty-four years, and was one of its dependable members at the time it burned.

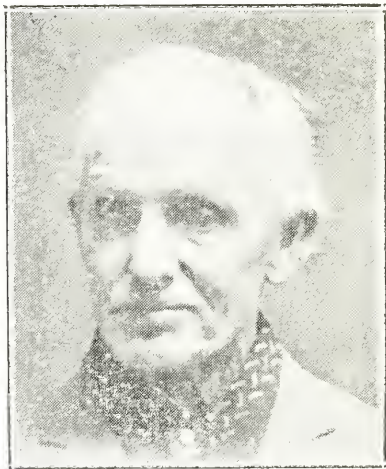
He was united in marriage to Miss Jane Richardson, of the same community, on March 17th, 1870. To this union were born three children: Joe, Mrs. Sallie Montgomery, and Mrs. Emily Crump. He was much devoted to his home and children, and lived an humble Christian life before them, always having family prayer in the home. He lived a good life and all were convinced of his faithful Christian life.

After the burning of Shiloh Church, in 1888, he helped to organize and establish New Hope M. P. Church which succeeded the burned church. He and his wife came as Charter members of the new church. He was elected one of the first trustees of the new Church, with John R. Belk and J. Pat Belk, this office he held until his death. He also served as Class leader for more than twenty years, an office which

he was well able to fill. He was greatly interested in the building of New Hope Church in 1892. He furnished a large amount of lumber and gave his labor. He served several times as steward, and Sunday School Superintendent in the early life of the church, and again in 1908 and 1909. He was a great believer in prayer. He kept alive a prayer meeting in New Hope Church. One of his favorite songs in prayer meeting and Sunday School was: "I Need The Prayers Of Those I love."

The author of this book, though then a child of about eight years, does well remember in the summer of 1911, the spring and summer being dry, the fields were parched and the seed would not sprout. In the Sunday School, Brother Richardson made an appeal to the people to pray for rain, and suggested a prayer meeting in the afternoon for that purpose. It was announced for two o'clock. As we gathered about the church the sun was shining bright and hot, no sign of rain. Brother Richardson came climbing the hill to the church, with his umbrella in his hand as a walking cane, thus proving his faith in God. After the meeting all returned to their homes. How well I remember father and I had to run to get home without getting wet. The Lord sent rain in answer to those prayers. We stood on the porch of our home and looked toward Brother Richardson's home, when father said: "Uncle Cull will get to use his umbrella before he gets home."

He was an unusually healthy man, until a few years before the end came. He became afflicted with heart and kidney trouble, from which he never recovered. On March 21st, 1916, he passed from this life to life everlasting, where he will forever be with God. His going was our loss and Heaven's gain.



J. PAT BELK

Charter Member of New Hope Church
Died October 12th, 1934

J. PAT BELK
Charter Member



J. Pat Belk was born March 20, 1852, in Buford Township, Union County. He was a son of the late A. W. Belk. He was converted at the age of about eighteen years and joined Shiloh Methodist Episcopal Church. After the burning of Shiloh Church in 1888, he brought his membership to New Hope Methodist Protestant Church as a charter member. Brother Belk was elected as one of the first Trustees of New Hope Church, and served faithfully for a good number of years.

He was united in marriage to Miss Carrie A. Rogers March 20, 1870. To this union were born seven children: Julia, Jennie, James, of which the latter died in infancy; Allison, a minister, and Victoria. This indeed, was a most consecrated family. The mother taught her children, with most tender care, the greatness of a Christian life and bringing them up in a home of Prayer and Bible reading. Their lives give testimony to these great facts.

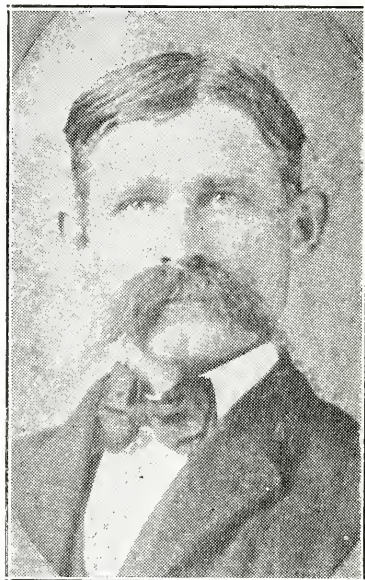
Some years later Mr. Belk moved from Union County to the Eastern part of South Carolina. While in this part of the country, on May 18, 1896, his be-

loved wife passed from this life and went to be with God..

Brother Belk lived alone for a number of years until 1908 he was united in marriage to Miss Amanda Anderson. To this union was born one son who died in infancy.

Brother Belk was a faithful member of New Hope Methodist Protestant Church until 1928, when he received his letter, in good standing, to unite with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, which was for the sake of convenience.

Mr. Belk was a very healthy man until a few years before his death, which came on October 12, 1934. He went to be with God and many friends who preceded him. He was laid to rest beside his first wife near Fort Mills, S. C., where he awaits the Resurrection morn.



J. P. AYCOTH

A former Official Member of New Hope Church
Died May 24th, 1927

J. P. AYCOTH

Official Member



J. P. Aycoth was born July 21st, 1867 in Buford Township, Union County. He was the son of the late Wm. H. Aycoth and was reared on the farm in Union County. He attended the local schools of his community. He was very industrious, quiet and devoted to his home.

He was united in marriage with Miss Mary Cook, a daughter of the late Aaron Cook, on January 19th, 1889. To this union were born twelve children: Lee, William, (Jake), Bundy, Ellis, Luther, Sam, Mrs. Wincie Morris, Mrs. Dovie Morris, Mrs. Susie Belk, Mrs. Bessie Helms, and Annie Aycoth. Dofas died in childhood.

Mr. Aycoth purchased a farm from his father-in-law, Aaron Cook, the land now known as the John Morris land, where he moved and lived a good many years. Later he bought what is known as the Home Place, where he lived the remainder of his life. In 1910 he bought an interest in a Gin and Mill outfit with his brother-in-law, T. P. Ross. Four years later, he and his two sons, Lee and Jake, bought a new and modern machinery; later a large corn mill was added. The machinery was operated with success until the fall of 1922, when it was destroyed by fire. Before the ginning season of 1923 new machinery was installed. At this time he also operated the community store.

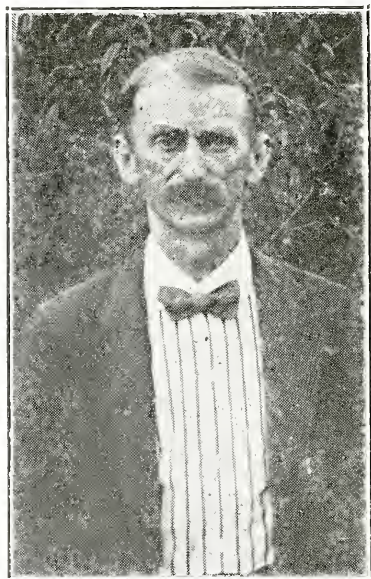
During the gin season of 1924, while operating the gin press, he injured his head, from which he recovered from the

visible wound, but from the internal injury he never recovered, growing worse and weaker. All possible human aid was given and secured by his children. On May 24th, 1927, he gave up this life and went to be with God.

Mr. Aycoth was a devoted Christian man, and there was not a more truthful man in this community than was he. He delighted in helping his fellowman who was in need, and as long as he had a dollar, one-half or more, of it was for his needy friends. God always blessed him with something to give. He looked on the bright side of life, and always had something good to say of everyone.

He was converted early in life, and united with New Hope Church, and was a faithful and devoted member until his death. He was always interested in his Church and was so attentive that he is greatly missed. He served as steward many years. He was faithful in the discharge of his official duty, and always headed the financial list of his church. He was the leader in the building programs of 1918 and 1926, and was Chairman of the finance committee.

Since he is gone it is hard to do without him. His works are ever before us. His truthfulness, honesty, faithfulness and loyalty inspire us. The vacancy he left in his community and church can never be filled. It can truthfully be said of him "Gone, but not forgotten." His body was laid to rest in the New Hope cemetery where he waits the First Resurrection Morn.



T. P. ROSS

A former Official Member of New Hope Church
Died October 22nd, 1928

T. P. ROSS
Official Member

T. Pink Ross was born May 17, 1869, in Union County, Buford Township. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ezekiel Ross. Mr. Ross was reared on the farm, and was a faithful, hard working boy. He had very little opportunity to go to school, but took great advantage of the time he did get to go and secured a fair education. After reaching manhood, he became very interested in singing; he attended every singing school possible for him to get to. He knew music well.

He was united in marriage to Miss Dovie Cook, March 20th, 1888. Mrs. Ross was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Cook. To this union were born 17 children: Henry A., Raymond B., Joe, Ernest, Ida, Carl, Mary, Lula, Bunyon, Lovin, Bright, Johnnie (deceased), Grady, Nay, Roy (deceased), Coy and Willie Ross.

Brother Ross lived for many years on what is known as the old W. S. Brantley place, until in 1903 he purchased a large farm, known as the Sebern Belk place (known now as the T. B. Cook Home), where he lived until 1916. Mr. Ross was an industrious business man. Soon after he moved to his old home place in 1903, he purchased a ginnery and saw mill outfit, and this was the only machinery in the community for many years. Brother Ross also ran the community store in connection with his other business.

Brother Ross was converted in 1903, and joined New Hope Methodist Protestant Church. Immediately af-

ter joining New Hope Church, he was elected Choir director, which office he was well prepared to fill, and which he served faithfully for twelve years. In connection with Choir Director, he served two years as Sunday School Superintendent, probably 1904 and 1905. Later, he served many years as teacher of the Adult Bible Class, also serving as Steward for a number of years. Brother Ross was faithful in the discharge of his official and Christian duties. He was faithful as a Steward, and always did his part in financing his Church in every way. He devoted much of his time to the study of the Bible; he knew his Bible better than any other man of the community, and practiced it in his everyday life.

In 1919, Brother Ross sold his home place to T. B. Cook, and moved to Monroe, N. C., where he entered the mercantile business, in which he remained until the end came.

Brother Ross had always been a healthy man until a few years before his death. His health began to fail him, and in 1926 he became very ill with heart dropsy, from which he never recovered. On October 22, 1928, he departed this life and went to his reward. Brother Ross was aware of his condition, and knew he could not recover, but many times did he give assurance of his being ready to go.

His body now rests in the plot of ground he gave to New Hope Church for a cemetery, where he will hear the voice of Him on that first Resurrection morn. His funeral was held in the presence of a large concourse of friends and loved ones, and was conducted by his pastor, Rev. C. E. Phillips.



JOHN WESLEY RICHARDSON

An Official member of New Hope Church, and
Sunday School Supt. for many years

JOHN WESLEY RICHARDSON

Sunday School Leader



John Wesley Richardson was born in 1878, in the New Hope Community, Union County. He was the son of the late General and Louise Broom Richardson. His boyhood days were spent on his father's farm in that community. He was one of a large family of boys and girls. They all worked hard and were thrifty. In the winter vacation days from the plough and fields he attended school in what was then known as the Richardson school house, near his home. There he received his education.

Mr. Richardson lived a sinful life, despite the training of a Christian father and mother. God often reminded him of his life and the need of him in the vineyard.

He was united in marriage with Miss Ida Penegar of the same community on December 22nd, 1898. To this union God entrusted nine children, three He took in infancy. The following lived to manhood and womanhood: Lula, Lillie, Annie, Mildred, Early and Oscar. God blessed his life with a Christian wife, who at all times showed her Spiritual interest in him and the home.

He is a prosperous farmer, owns his farm and a beautiful home.

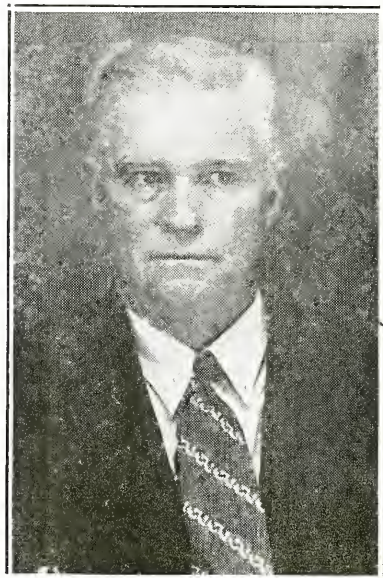
He was converted in August 1906, while attending a revival at New Hope Church. Rev. J. B. Parham was pastor. He united with New Hope Church and became an active worker. He served as teacher of one of the primary classes for some time and was an effective teacher. He was elected

Sunday School Superintendent in 1915 and 1916, and again in 1922 and served faithfully each year until July 1930, when he was released at his own request for about a year. He was elected again on November 1st, 1931, and has served successfully in the same office since, which is more than sixteen years as Sunday School Superintendent of New Hope Sunday School. His Faithful work is largely responsible for the success of the Sunday School for the past years. Generally, the cold winter months would close the Sunday School, but as long as he served as leader it thrived during the winter months.

He served in other offices in the church where he found the need for his service. He served as Steward, and on committees. He was interested in the remodeling of the church in 1918 and the building of the Arbor in 1926, and was one of the five on the Building Committee.

He is a great speaker and very able in prayer, in which he is a great believer. His home is a home of Christian joy, and is at all times open to Christian worship.

Brother Richardson deserves much credit for the splendid work he has done in New Hope Church and community. His place could not be filled, and we trust he will be permitted to be with the work in New Hope Church many more years to come.



T. B. COOK

An Official Member of New Hope Church

T. B. COOK
Official Member



T. B. Cook was born June 20th, 1883, in Buford Township, Union County. He is a son of Aaron Cook. Mr. Cook was one of a large family of children. His mother died when he was only nine years old, therefore, he did not have any educational advantages.

He was united in marriage with Miss Mary Norman, of Pleasant Valley, S. C., on December 25th, 1900. To this union were born nine children, eight boys and one girl. Rufus, who died at the age of six months; Earl the author of this book; Floyd, Crowell, Parley, Cam, Lawrence, Ernest and Myrtle.

For many years Mr. Cook operated the Country Store in his community.

In February 1932, the old home was destroyed by fire, and in 1933 a new modern home was built.

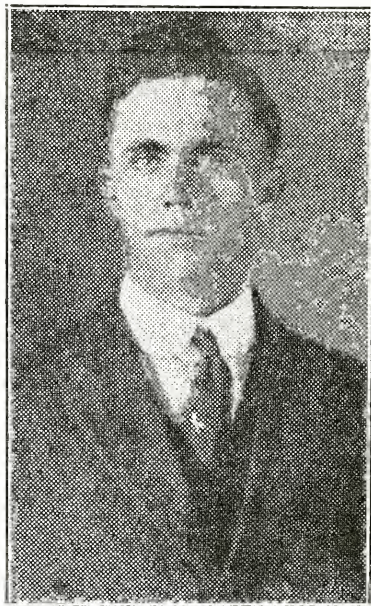
Mr. Cook has always taken a great interest in his Church program and school. He is very influential in the community affairs.

He was converted and united with New Hope Church in 1903, and has been an active member since

that time. He has served as steward for many years, and his home has always been open to the preachers who made it home while they were in the community.

Mr. Cook has lived in the New Hope community all his life except two years, 1909, 1910, when he moved to Pleasant Valley, S. C. He lived as a renter until 1914, at which time he bought a little farm in the New Hope community, known as the Bud Ross place. He lived there for five years. With the large family of boys he needed more land to work, when in 1919 he bought from T. P. Ross, the present home place.

Mr. Cook has always been interested in his Church and spiritual condition of his community. His service and means have always been freely given for the support of his church. Many of his children are outstanding in church work.



JOE ROSS

Member of New Hope Church, and Choir Director
For Many Years

JOE ROSS
Choir Director



Joe Ross was born October 22, 1892, the son of T. P. and Dovie Cook Ross, and a grandson of the late Aaron Cook. He was born and reared in Union County at the old Ross homestead near New Hope Church, now known as the T. B. Cook farm home. He was an unusual young man with talent and ability. He never indulged in any habits common to the young people of his day, even to the tobacco habit.

He attended the local school of his community and secured a very good education. He inherited the talent of singing from his father. He became very interested in singing early in life, and attended every singing school he was able to attend, thereby obtained a fair knowledge of vocal music, and became a very able singer.

On the 16th day of June, 1918, he was united in marriage with Miss Cora Lee Broom, of North Monroe, N. C. God has blessed their home with four children: Eva, Evelyn, Lucile and Joe Neal Ross.

On August 8th, 1918, he entered the United States Army, to take part in the great World War. He was a member of Company B, 56th Pioneer Infantry. He

sailed for France on or about the 15th of September, 1918, and served a little more than nine months on the battlefields of France. He returned with a part of his Company to the United States on June 25th, 1919, receiving his discharge July 5th, 1919.

After Mr. Ross returned home from France he became engaged in the mercantile business in Monroe, N. C., where, with the exception of a few years, he has remained.

He was converted and united with New Hope Methodist Protestant Church in September 1911, Rev. Wm. P. Martin was pastor. Mr. Ross, even before his conversion, took a great interest in the church and its program. He served as Secretary and Treasurer of New Hope Sunday School for several years. First he was assistant choir leader, and served several years at different times as choir leader, and Mrs. Ross served as organist. The New Hope choir thrived under his leadership, which was widely known as the county's best choir. He has served as steward several times.

Mr. Ross is yet a young man and has many years for service for the Church.



ROBERT COOK
Chairman



LEE AYCOTH



ROBERT BELK

Official Trustees of New Hope Church Since 1927

ROBERT COOK

Church Trustee



Robert Cook was born in Burke County, N. C., September 5th, 1876. He is a son of Aaron and Martha White Cook. His father moved to Union County soon after Robert was born. He was reared on the farm in Union County and lived the simple life of all poor people of that day. He was one of a large family of children and had little or no school advantages.

He was united in marriage with Miss Annie Melton on August 29th, 1895. Ten children were born to this union, eight of whom lived to adulthood: Crawford, Canty, Sidney, Velma, Marvin, Lester, Vinnie Lue, and Annie Mae.

Mr. Cook is an industrious and prosperous farmer, by which means he has accumulated much of the necessities of life and a farm home. He operates a saw mill and his own farm cotton gin. He owns his own farm, which he bought in 1910 and built his home. The farm is a very large one.

He joined New Hope Church in 1906, and has been greatly interested in the Church since that time. He has served as Steward numbers of times, and was on a building committee at one time. He has been Chairman of the Board of Trustees of New Hope Church since 1927.

ROBERT BELK

Church Trustee



Robert Belk was born in Union County, N. C., on February 10th, 1885, in the New Hope Community. He is a son of W. C. and Mollie Belk. He was reared on the farm and had the advantage of a fair education.

Robert's parents were very religious and were Charter Members of New Hope Church, therefore, the large family of children were trained to go to Church.

Mr. Belk went to Florida while he was a young man, where he spent about seven years. On October 18th, 1914, after his return from Florida, he was united in marriage with Miss Ethel Green, of Union County. To this union were born two children to brighten the home, Lucile and Bernice.

Mr. Belk is very industrious, and has accumulated enough of this world's goods to make life comfortable for his little family. He farmed for several years but later went into the mercantile business on Highway No. 200 just two miles south of Monroe, N. C., where he built a splendid home. He is now in business in Monroe, N. C.

He joined New Hope Church in his boyhood. He has served as Sunday School Superintendent, Steward, Teacher and has been Church Trustee since 1927.

May his Church life always be outstanding.

LEE AYCOTH

Church Trustee

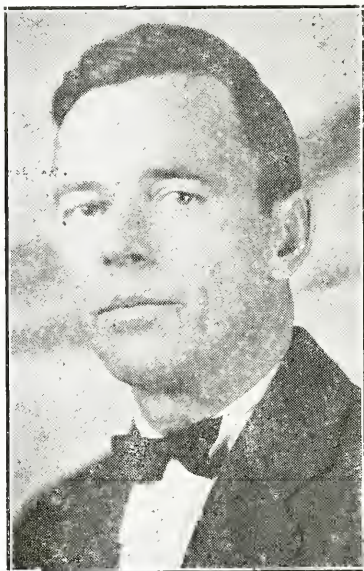


Lee Aycoth was born February 28th, 1890, in Union County, Buford Township. He is a son of the late J. P. Aycoth, and a grandson of the late Aaron Cook. He was reared on his father's farm and in the New Hope Community. He was always taught to attend church. He was the elder child of a large family, and has a fair education.

He was united in marriage to Miss Rena Brantley of the same community, February 22nd, 1911. Born to this union were four children: Viola, Carl, Clarence and Gance.

Mr. Aycoth was converted and joined New Hope Church in 1906, under the pastorate of Rev. J. B. Parham. He has been a devoted member since that time. He has served as Sunday School teacher for several years during that time, has served as steward a number of times, as well as Assistant Sunday School Superintendent. He was elected as one of the Church Board of Trustees in 1927.

He owns a nice home in the church community, and with his brothers operates a large cotton gin in that community.



G. R. MONTGOMERY

A long-time Choir Director of New Hope Church

G. R. MONTGOMERY

Choir Director



G. R. Montgomery was born March 31st, 1890, in Union County, Buford Township. He is the son of the late D. C. Montgomery. He was reared on the farm and received only a fair education.

Mr. Montgomery was a hard working young man, very alert and full of pep. He was married September 14th, 1909, to Miss Cora Clawson of the same community. To this union five children were born, four living, Howard, Admiral, Elsie and Doyle.

He was converted and joined New Hope Church in 1916. Rev. J. W. Quick was pastor at that time. He at once took an active part in the affairs of the church. He has served as teacher, Steward, singing leader, and probably other offices. He could always be depended upon to carry his part of the financial obligations of the Church.

Mr. Montgomery secured a position in a meat mar-

ket in Monroe, N. C. After working there for several years he moved his family to Monroe, where he has made his home since. About four years after that he moved to the city, in 1934, he moved his membership to the Lutheran Church in Monroe. But still he and his family are greatly interested in New Hope Church.



NOBLE HELMS

An Official Member of New Hope Church

NOBLE HELMS

Official Member



Noble Helms was born November 11th, 1907, in Monroe Township, Union County. He is the elder son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Walsh Helms. Brother Helms was reared in an humble Christian home and was taught the great principles of the Christian religion from a child. He was reared on the farm, in what is known as the Mt. Carmel Community. He has just a common school education.

As do many young men, he strayed from the teachings of his Christian mother and sowed his wild oats for a number of years. The prayers of his father and mother continued through the years for their son: in the home the Scriptures were read and prayers offered in his behalf; in the cottage prayer meetings, the prayers continued; in Sunday School the prayers did not cease. At the early age of sixteen Noble was converted and united with New Hope Church, in August 1923.

He was very attentive to his Sunday School, but as he grew older he began to associate with bad company, and soon drifted back into sin. In the revival

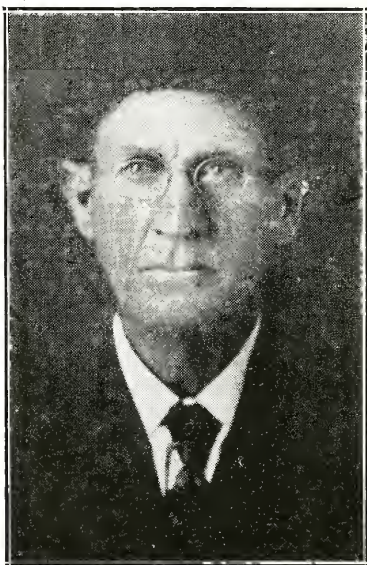
meeting at New Hope in August 1930, he got under deep conviction and remained so throughout the revival. On Friday night, August 22nd, 1930, after Rev. J. R. Anderson had delivered a wonderful message, he returned to his home under a heavy burden. How well I remember when his brother came for me to pray with him, others were brought in to help him. About eleven o'clock he gave up sin and came back to Christ. There was not only joy in his heart, but in the hearts of all who were present.

He at once took an active part in the Sunday School and prayer meetings. His life was watched, but he proved to be faithful.

On December 12th, 1930, he was elected Sunday School Superintendent, serving faithfully, with pleasure and satisfaction to the Sunday School, until November 1st, 1931, at which time he asked to be released for a while. He was released and elected assistant teacher of the Young Peoples' Class.

He was united in marriage with Miss Chloie Melton on February 6th, 1932. To this union one child has been born.

Brother Helms is a young man and we can see a great spiritual future for him. New Hope is indeed proud of such an able young man as is Brother Helms.



REV. A. B. HAYWOOD

**A Local Methodist Protestant Preacher of Union
County who was always interested in
New Hope Church**

REV. ANNER B. HAYWOOD

A Local Preacher



Rev. Anner B. Haywood was born August 14th, 1855, in Vance Township, Union County. He was a son of Jim Haywood, an outstanding farmer of the county. He received a fair education and taught school in his early twenties.

He was converted at the age of nineteen years, at Antioch Methodist Protestant Church on the Mecklenburg Charge. He united with that church and has been active in its work since. Five years later he realized the call to preach. He immediately entered the work which was mostly local. He served Davidson Circuit in 1919. He also had several offers of other fields in the Conference but personal conditions would not permit his accepting them.

Rev. Haywood's work at New Hope Church, alone, is outstanding. Although he never served as pastor, neither was he ever a member of the church, but he was always interested in New Hope Church, and in the early life of the church he spent much time in promoting the work of the church. He was in most all the revivals up until about 1918, and attended occasionally after that time. Therefore, he meant more to the church than many of its pastors.

His father played a great part in the organization of Antioch Church, and since he was a noted carpenter he led the work in erecting the church. Rev. Haywood spent many hours with his mother making the boards to cover the large arbor at Antioch. While growing up he learned the carpenter trade under his father, and in later years built many churches. He was given the contract to erect Grace Chapel Church, now an M. E. Church, for which he never received any pay.

In September 1876, he was united in marriage with Miss Harrett Jane Harkness. To this union no children were born. Mrs. Haywood died in 1914, a second marriage was on October 18th, 1916, with Miss Lula Rowell, of Union County. To this union two children were born, Mary Lee and A. B., Jr.

Rev. Haywood is now getting close to the parting of the way. His labors in this vineyard are almost finished, but the influences of his labors and the memories of his earnestness is living and still bearing fruit. May his mantle of earnestness fall on the shoulders of his children and dominate their lives as it did his.



REV. ALLISON E. BELK

First minister produced by New Hope Church
and is a member of the Wesleyan Methodist
Conference in North Carolina.

DR. ALLISON E. BELK

First Minister Produced by New Hope Church



Rev. Allison E. Belk, D. D., was born in Union County, N. C., three miles South of Monroe on the 3rd day of July, 1881, a son of J. Pat Belk.

He was dedicated to the ministry by his father and mother before he was born., and was converted at the age of ten.

He entered the ministry at the age of twenty-one, and has continued preaching from that time to the present. However in connection with his ministerial duties he has taught for seven years in the schools of North Carolina, serving in the capacity of principal. For two years he taught in the Mt. Hebron Collegiate Bible School, near Old Fort, N. C. He has spent several years in the evangelistic field. He has traveled largely in the United States.

He has held pastorates in four states, viz.: North Carolina, Tennessee, South Carolina, and California. His first pastorate was in Kings Mountain, N. C. After serving this charge faithfully and being blessed of God. He was then called to the pastorate of the First Wesleyan Methodist Church of Knoxville, Tenn. During his four years pastorate there he built two new churches, one in East Knoxville, and one in West Knoxville. Because of failing health, he left Knoxville and returned to the mountains of North Carolina. In a short time he regained his health, and took the pastorate of the Old Fort Church. It was during his pastorate here that he taught in the Mt. Hebron Collegiate Bible School. He was then called to the First Church in Asheville where he remained for five years, during which time he built a new church and parsonage. He also served four years in the First Church of Spartanburg, S. C., where he remodeled the church

and bought a new parsonage while the building was under construction, and finished it.

Dr. Belk went west after serving the Spartanburg Church, and was pastor of the Glassel Park Church of the Nazarene, in Los Angeles, California. Here he finished building a church, where the former pastor had died while constructing the building. In August, 1928, he secured a leave of absence for four months and returned to North Carolina on account of the ill health of his father. After coming back he decided to remain here, and tendered his resignation. For three years he did evangelistic work during the summer months and taught school during the school session. In the summer of 1927 to 1928 he conducted a camp meeting at New Hope, the latter in the Tabernacle. This was during the pastorate of Rev. C. E. Phillips. Dr. Belk has held five revivals in the New Hope Church during a period of thirty years.

In 1931 he received a call to the Loray Wesleyan Methodist Church in Gastonia, N. C. He served that Church for three years. Two years of this time he continued his teaching as principal of Dixon Academy.

In August 1934, he was sent to the first church in Durham, N. C. He is now serving his second year there. Since taking this church he has remodeled the old building, and added to it an annex 28x42 feet, thus enlarging the auditorium, and adding seven Sunday School rooms, at a cost of \$4,000. The parsonage has also been remodeled at a cost of \$300.

During these years of his ministry hundreds have come out of darkness into the glorious light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ through his efforts. In addition to his labors mentioned above he has organized six new churches and opened up territory where several other new churches have been organized.

A number of preachers have been a part of his reward as a preacher, also several teachers. He has assisted eigh-

teen young people in securing education, several of these he has taken into his home (these being orphans).

Dr. Belk was united in matrimony on April 4th, 1907, to Miss Stella M. Graves, of Cleveland, Ohio. She has stood faithfully by him in his work of the ministry, sharing his hardships and blessings. She is also an ordained minister, a school teacher and a stencographer. Mrs. Belk received her education in the Schools of Cleveland, Ohio, and elsewhere. She received some of her Bible training in Cleveland Bible Institute.

Mr. Belk received his college training in Pasadena, Cal., Pasadena College, and then had conferred upon him his A. B., Th.B., and B. D. degrees. It will be news to some who read this book to know the Rev. Belk is a rare combination of Jewish and Irish descent. His Jewish ancestors were of the tribe of Benjamin. His great grandfather, Simmons, with another Jew by the name of Moses, built the first store in Monroe, N. C.

Dr. Belk has served his conference for eight years as Conference Treasurer, and has been sent four times as a delegate to the General Conference. Mrs. Belk served for six years as Conference secretary.

Mr. Belk is an able expositor of the Word. He is now in his fifty-fifth year, and in good health. We trust that the Lord will let him live many years to preach this glorious gospel.



REV. LESTER S. HELMS

An Official Member of New Hope Church at the
time he entered the ministry in 1917

REV. LESTER S. HELMS

Second Minister Produced by New Hope Church



Rev. Lester S. Helms was born in 1884, in Sandy Ridge Township, Union County. He is a son of the late Henry Helms.

He was reared on the farm and in the cord wood and rail forests of Union County. In his boyhood days he only received a primary education.

He was united in marriage with Miss May Belle Yarbrough on August 12th, 1904, and to this union were born three children: Connie, Clifton, Hallie.

Brother Helms moved to the New Hope community about 1911, and was converted in 1912 and united with New Hope church and became an active member. He served as Sunday School Superintendent for several years, besides other offices.

He entered the ministry the summer of 1917, and was licensed to preach by his local quarterly Conference of the Pageland Charge. Realizing his inefficiency, educationally, he entered Midland High School, where he secured his high school education. He entered the Conference Classes in 1918. He was ordained an Elder in the Methodist Protestant Church at the

Conference of 1929.

Up to, and including 1936 he has served the following Charges: 1920-1921 Greenville Circuit in Virginia; 1922 was left in the hands of the President; 1923, 1924 and 1925 Democrat Charge, in Western, N. C., 1926, 1927 and 1928 Shelby-Caroleen; 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, and 1933 Connelly Springs Charge, 1934, 1935, and 1936 Draper.

Death visited his home in 1918, claiming his wife and baby. After about two years he was united in marriage with Miss Lula Widenhouse, of Cabarrus County, a sister of Chief B. F. Widenhouse, long time Chief of Police of Concord, N. C. Four children were born to this union. Mrs. Helms was never a strong woman, and declined in health for several years, until death claimed her in 1929.

Again without a companion, Brother Helms lived alone with his sorrows until January 17th, 1930, when he took unto himself the third wife, Miss Elyzabells Townson, of Burk County, N. C.

Brother Helms is the second minister produced by New Hope Church. The church is proud of the record he has made, and wishes for him a continued success throughout his ministry.



REV. EARL A. COOK

An Official Member of New Hope Church at the
time he entered the ministry in 1923



Rev Earl A. Cook at the age of about 3½, with
His Father, T. B. Cook, the age at which
he first felt the call to the ministry

REV. EARL A. COOK

The Author

By

J. RAY SHUTE II, F. R. S. A. I.,

Monroe, N. C.

Earl Albert Cook was born in Buford Township, Union County, North Carolina, on the 1st day of February, 1904. He is the eldest son of T. B. and Mary E. Norman Cook. He received his early education in the local school of his community, and his High School work at Prospect High School of Union County.

His religious training began at birth, and under this religious training he was taught the value of a Christian life. He realized very early in life he was called of God to do a special work. Feared by the thought of it he dared not mention it to anyone. Until he was ten years old he did not realize the responsibility of the calling, at which time he was converted and united with New Hope Methodist Protestant Church. From that time the responsibility grew heavier. He would shun the leadings of the Spirit until he drifted away, but the impression of the call was always present and reminding him of his duties. On August 8th, 1923, he submitted to the call and promised God his life as a minister in His vineyard. He attended the Annual Conference of his church in 1923 held in Thomasville, N. C., and there learned that his education was not sufficient for him to enter the ministry. It was not until then that he entered Prospect High School to further his education as was suggested by the Conference Faculty, while his devoted helpmate worked in a local knitting establishment to support them. He was licensed to preach in 1923, by the Quarterly Conference of the Pageland Charge, Rev. J. W. Quick pastor.

The author conducted prayer meetings and preached regularly in homes and churches during his local work, and was admitted to the Conference Classes at Winston-Salem, during the Conference, in November 1928, and finished the re-

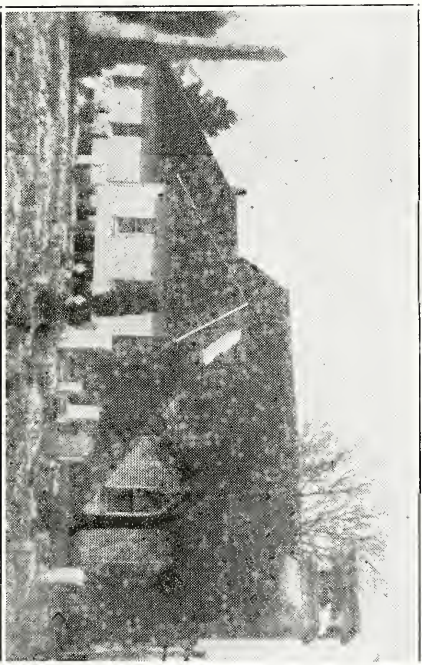
quired study courses in 1931. In November 1933, he was ordained an Elder in the Methodist Protestant Church.

Reverend Mr. Cook has served diligently his church, and God, and has served several charges in the conference, although his work in the ministry is young. His first work was as supply preacher at Bethesda Church, Chesterfield, South Carolina, a part of the Pageland Charge, in 1930. In 1932 and 1933 he served Democrat Charge in western North Carolina, with five churches and no promise of pay. The work there was hard and strenuous but he braved the hardships and built a parsonage at Democrat and received in salary just about what was promised, as the charge was in such condition it was unable to pay. In 1934, 1935 and 1936 he served Roberta Church, a station work, in Concord, North Carolina. While there he conducted a drive and paid off a large debt on the church, a new furnace installed and other minor achievements.

This young author deserves much credit for his advancement: reared on the farm, of parents who had little of this world's goods; farming, attending school and working at a lunch stand in order that he might serve the Lord and preach the gospel. He deserves much credit for the writing of this little volume. Not only did he write it but he labored and printed it with a small hand press to make it possible that you might have it. He has labored patiently for five years gathering the information and printing it with his own hands. He has accumulated a library of more than a thousand volumes, and has applied himself to the study of them, done correspondence work, attended summer sessions at High Point College and constantly endeavored to better himself to better preach the Gospel. He is the third minister produced by New Hope Church.

On June 25th, 1922, he was united in marriage with Miss Josephine Melton, of Union County, to which union two children have been born, Loma and Colene. Mrs. Cook has been a struggling and devoted wife.

With most of his ministerial life before him, we wish for him a wonderful success.



ROBERTA METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH

This Church is located in Concord, N. C. and has a membership of about three hundred. Earl A. Cook have now served this church three years, 1934 1935 and 1936.

LOCATION

New Hope Methodist Protestant Church is located in Union County, Buford Township. Five and one-half miles South of Monroe, N. C., on the East side of what is known as the Plyler Mill Road which leaves Highway No. 200 two and One-half miles from Monroe or at Mt. Carmel School.

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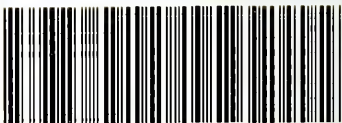
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